The New-York Times.

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TELEGRAMS.

The Battle Near Amiens an Indecisive Conflict.

A Movement Toward Paris by the Germans on the Loire.

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS QUESTION.

Great Britain Ready to Pay But Not to Apologize.

Another Victim of the Spottswood Catastrophe Identified.

Several of the Missing Known to be Safe.

A Narrative of An Eye-Witness of the Terrible Scenes.

THE WAR IN FRANCE.

The Battle Near Amiens—Was It a French or German Victory?—Gen. Faidherbe's Official Report—King William's Telegram to the Queen.

BORDEAUX, Dec. 25.—Gen. FAIDHERBE, commanding the Army of the North, reports as follows to the Minister of War: "The Prussians gave us battle on the 23d inst. We were well posted between Daours and Contay. Our troops fought admirably during the entire day. Villages were taken and retaken. At 5 in the afternoon our success was complete. We drove the enemy before us with the bayonet. During the night the Prussians entered some villages in the valley, but they did not try to attack our positions." Other reports say Gen. FAIDHERBE was successful on his right and left wings, and his army slept on the field of battle, but the result was undecisive. The next day, the enemy showing no disposition to renew the fight, Gen. FAIDHERBE returned to Albert.

THE GERMAN STORY.

BERLIN, Dec. 25.—King WILLIAM telegraphs to the Queen that Gen. MANTEUFFEL won a victory on the 23d, near Amiens, taking 1,000 prisoners, and commenced to pursue the French in the direction of Arras today.

The Battle at Nuits—Another French Report—The People of Lyons Confident.

LONDON, Dec. 25.—An account of the battle of the 18th at Nuits, from French sources says the force opposed to the Prussians numbered 19,000 men and had three batteries of artillery. The combat lasted all day. At evening the French retreated in an orderly manner about 1,000 yards. The new levies fought like veterans. The Prussians abandoned Nuits on the morning of the 19th, but subsequently returned and reoccupied the place. The French put their loss at 1,200 killed and wounded, and claim that the enemy lost some 5,000 men.

THE FEELING IN LYONS.

The people of Lyons are confident that the invaders will be expelled from France.

No Fighting at Paris Since the 21st—The People Confident—Sailing of an Expedition from Brest on a Secret Object—District Camps in France—Available Strength of the Invading Armies.

LONDON, Dec. 25.—Balloon advices from Paris to the 22d are at hand. There had been no more fighting. The French loss in the sortie of the 21st was reported at about 800. The confidence of the inhabitants is undiminished.

A SECRET EXPEDITION.

A fleet of transports is preparing to leave Brest with a considerable force for an unknown destination.

DISTRICT CAMPS FOR NEW LEVIES.

The French Government is hastening the organization of district camps for new levies.

GERMAN ARMIES IN FRANCE.

The total effective force of the German Armies now in France is set down in round numbers at 600,000, half of which is now before Paris. In addition to this number, 100,000 men are reported on the sick list. It is estimated that 300,000 Germans have been killed or disabled since the beginning of the war.

GARRISON DUTY AT HOME.

Garrison duty in Prussia is to be intrusted to volunteers, who, by reason of being under or over age, or having served their terms, are not liable to military service.

Telegraphic Communication—The Situation on the Loire—The Germans Moving Toward Paris.

BORDEAUX, Dec. 25.—Telegraphic communication between this city and the north of France has been restored.

THE ARMY OF THE LOIRE.

Gen. BOURBAKI sends the Government a favorable account of the army under his command.

A GERMAN MOVEMENT TOWARD PARIS.

An official dispatch from Le Mans of Dec. 24 announces that the Prussians have withdrawn from Nogent-le-Rotrou. Seventy-five thousand men passed through the town, going in the direction of Paris.

GENERAL EUROPEAN NEWS.

England Ready to Settle the Alabama Claims if Money Only is Asked—Release of Fenians—Death of an Editor's Son.

LONDON, Dec. 26.—The *Pall Mall Gazette* is anxious that Americans should know that England is heartily tired of the *Alabama* controversy, and is ready to pay any impartial money award, if an adjustment can be confined thereto....The Fenian convicts were discharged from Portland Prison on Friday last....JOHN WALTER, Jr., son of the chief editor of the London *Times*, broke through the ice while skating and was drowned....The colonists of New-Zealand are dissatisfied at the delay of the mails sent via California.

The Mont Cenis Tunnel—Laborers from the Opposite Sides Hear Each Other—The Spanish King Elect.

LONDON, Dec. 26.—The working parties in the opposite headings of the Mont Cenis Tunnel are within hearing distance of each other. Greetings and hurrahs were exchanged through the dividing wall of rock for the first time at 4¼ o'clock Christmas afternoon.

LONDON, Dec. 25.—Prince AMADEUS was to leave Florence at 11 o'clock this morning, but dispatches sent thence as late as 4½ this afternoon make no mention of his departure.

GEORGIA.

The Elections—Aspirants for Senatorial Dignity—Seven Nominally Claimants for Admission—The Atlanta and Chattanooga Railroad.

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 26.—In Jasper County LAWTON's majority is 93. The Democratic county ticket is elected. In Henry County LAWTON's majority is 411. In Caltosa County YOUNG's majority is 366. The Democratic ticket is elected. In Gwinnett County PRICE's majority is 1,106. The Democratic County ticket is elected. In Fayette County BIGBY's majority is 48. A Radical Representative is elected, but the county officers are Democratic.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 26.—Although not less than seven United States Senators have from time to time been elected by the respective Legislatures of Georgia, the Legislature to assemble on the first Monday in January will elect another Senator for the vacancy which will occur on the 3d of March next. Thus the United States Senate will then, as now, have seven persons from whom to select two to represent Georgia in that body for the short term. Atlanta papers of the 22d announce the arrival of Secretary DELANO and Senator CAMERON. A private letter says their business is with reference to the Atlanta and Chattanooga Railway, which is 136 miles in length, the Legislature of Georgia, at the last session, having passed a bill to lease this road for twenty years.

THE RICHMOND DISASTER.

Narrative of an Eye Witness—Origin of the Fire—Panic of the Guests—A Jam Behind the Hall Doors—Eight Lives Known to be Lost—Several of the Missing Safe—But Little Hope of Those Still Missing.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—Mr. A. R. LEIB, a special agent of the Treasury Department, was a guest at the Spottswood House, Richmond, at the time of the fire. He states that soon after 2 A. M. yesterday, while in bed in the third story, he heard a sound below as if some one was breaking kindling wood. He rose and looked out of the window, but saw nothing unusual. The noise continuing, however, he commenced dressing himself leisurely, as he intended to take the next railroad train. Before leaving his room he turned off the gas, and glancing toward the window saw a light from the outside, which he soon discovered proceeded from flames bursting from the story directly under him. He then heard a woman, whom he supposed to be the housekeeper, cry in wild alarm, "My God! the house is on fire!" He called to her to dress herself, and with the view of calming her excitement said to her that there was no danger on her side, but that it was on his. He then proceeded to knock at all the doors in the third story to awaken the occupants of the rooms and urge them to dress themselves quickly, as the house was on fire. Mr. LEIB then descended to the second story, where he found Mr. SHURE knocking at the doors waking the guests, who were soon all up and alive to their danger. The utmost alarm now naturally prevailed, and in the general eagerness to escape, the passage-way of the private entrance was in a short time crowded, and owing to the pressure the doors could not be opened until by extraordinary force the crowd was pushed back and room was made for that purpose. The housekeeper, Mrs. KINNERLY, was the second person who awoke on that morning, but perished by being cut off by the flames, having delayed in order to look after her trunk. The man who was carrying it preceded her, and barely got beyond her when the flames impeded her progress, and the stairway fell. The fire, Mr. LEIB says, originated in the wine-room adjoining the dining-room in the second story. Mr. LUCK, one of the proprietors of the hotel was severely burned. He rushed through the flames for his family, ignorant of the fact that they were safe. Mr. LEIB says that Messrs. GEORGE and ANDREWS, of Syracuse, N. Y., and Mr. SHURE, wife and child, reported missing, are all safe. Mr. LEIB's wife was lost on the schooner *Evening Star* off the coast of Florida, in a gale, on the 22d of February.

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 26.—JOHN H. HOLMAN, Jr., of Jackson, Tenn., is now known to have been burned at the Spottswood Hotel, making the eighth victim. NATHAN BURNSTEIN, of Washington, was found to be safe this morning. WILCOX, of Lynchburg, and VADEN, of Chesterfield, reported missing, are also safe. This leaves several still missing, of whose safety there is little hope.

ANOTHER FIRE IN VIRGINIA.

An Entire Block Burned in Harrisonburg—A Bank and Many Business Establishments Destroyed, With Their Contents—Loss, $100,000.

HARRISONBURG, Va., Dec. 25.—A very destructive fire occurred here this morning between 4 and 5 o'clock, by which a large number of the principal business houses in the town were burned. The fire originated in WALL's store, and consumed a whole square before the flames were subdued. The following establishments were totally destroyed, with nearly all their contents: The First National Bank, the *Semi-Weekly Enterprise* office, Wall's liquor-store, Kelley's work-shop, Heller's liquor-store, Smith's store and dwelling, Mrs. S. J. Coffonan's dwelling, Maud A. Heller's dry-goods-store, Tupton's clothing-store, Messrs. Silbert & Long's clothing-store, Willman's barber-shop, Switzer's clothing-store, Andrew's livery-stable, Wortman's bookstore. The American Hotel, on the opposite side of Main-street, was considerably damaged. All the glass in the windows was broken by the intense heat. Mr. Switzer and son were badly hurt, but not seriously. The destruction of property will amount to $100,000, half of which is not insured.

OTHER FIRES.

Several Stores Burned in Poughkeepsie—The Loss Still Unascertained.

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., Dec. 26.—A fire broke out in CONNOR's saloon, in Main-street, this evening, and before the flames were suppressed the following stores were burned: E. R. PEASE, boots and shoes; SCHWARTZ, clothier; LAMBERT, cigars; VAN WYCK, hats and caps; MYERS, photograph; MELROSE, fancy goods; FARNUM, drugs; WILSON, books and stationery; HYDE, shoes. These stores were all on Main-street. On Garden-street, the stores of the following-named persons were burned: KIMBALL, engraver; HYATT, umbrellas; also, another engraving establishment. The contents were nearly all saved of FARNUM's drug-store, WILSON's bookstore and HYDE's shoe-store. The loss cannot be ascertained to-night.

Fire on Board the Steam-ship Roman, from Boston for Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 26.—The steam-ship *Roman*, of the Boston line, which arrived this afternoon, caught fire in some bedding in the forecastle, and was damaged about $900. She now lies alongside the steamer *Aries*, at Pine-street Wharf.

MARINE DISASTER.

The Accident to the Steam-ship Aries and the Loss of Five Men—Statement of the Captain.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 26.—The steam-ship *Aries* arrived at this port at 4 o'clock this morning, safe and sound. The following statement has been received from Capt. WYLIE:

We were coming up the coast on the morning of Dec. 23, were tracking the beach, same as we always do, when we got caught inside Hereford Bar. This occurred at 7 o'clock A. M. At 10 o'clock A. M., JEPHTHA SEARS, first mate, and four colored deck-hands, ENOCH JONES, ROBERT CURRIE, WILLIAM CARTY and CHARLES HALL, were sent out to make soundings. They returned in about an hour, when within a boat's length of the ship one of the men cramped his oar and the boat upset. SEARS, CARTY and CURRIE were washed away and lost. JONES and HALL kept on the bottom of the boat. Capt. WYLIE, second mate, chief engineer and pilot manned a second boat and went to their assistance. They were rescued, but died in one hour from excessive cold. The second boat was carried out to sea, and was rescued by the pilot-boat *Weldon*, of Cape May. JONES and HALL were taken to Cape May and buried. It was impossible to save them, although a surgeon from Cape May came in the pilot-boat. CARTY's and CURRIE's bodies were washed ashore. SEARS' body was not recovered. SEARS leaves a wife and child at Cape Cod. The negroes were natives of Delaware and Pennsylvania. The steamer *Aries* lost none of her freight, neither was she at all damaged.

WASHINGTON.

The San Domingo Commission—Our Merchant Marine—The Forthcoming Message to Congress on the Subject—The Land Office.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—With a view to securing all possible dispatch in getting away the San Domingo Commission, in case the resolution for its appointment passes the House, the United States steamer, now at the navy-yard here, is being put in readiness for the expedition. The Commissioners will most probably be selected from members of Congress.

THE SHIPPING INTEREST.

Mr. MORAN, Secretary of the American Legation at London, has been directed by the State Department to telegraph immediately statistics of the maritime strength of Great Britain at the present time, and especially the increase in her shipping during the past four years. The special Message of the President to Congress, on the subject of building up our merchant marine service, gives the occasion both for the information and the haste in obtaining it.

THE GEORGIA SENATORS.

The Judiciary Committee will hold a meeting on Saturday preceding the reassembling of Congress, at which they will decide upon a report in the case of the Senators from Georgia, the competitors being, on one side Messrs. HILL and MILLER, and on the other Messrs. FARROW and WHITLY. The Committee has sent to Atlanta to obtain additional and new evidence concerning the status of the members who were excluded or expelled from the Georgia Legislature, and the report will be made immediately after the recess.

A HOLIDAY IN THE PUBLIC OFFICES.

The Government offices have been closed to-day. Business generally has been suspended and the day treated as a holiday. The city has been remarkably quiet, and much more like Sunday than Christmas.

THE LAND OFFICE.

Rumor has it that Mr. JULIAN, member of Congress from Indiana, has been offered the General Land Office in place of Mr. WILSON. It seems to be settled, as these dispatches predicted many weeks ago, that Mr. WILSON cannot retain the position, and the time of action looking to a change is now said to be near at hand. Mr. JULIAN failed of a re-election to the next Congress, and if the Land Office is to be given to him, or to any member of this Congress not elected to the next, it is more likely that Mr. WILSON will remain till near the 4th of March.

EUROPEAN TOPICS.

Aid to the Sufferers by the War—Work of the Quakers—Desolated Villages and Ruined Families—An Appeal for Help—The Birmingham Catastrophe.

From Our Own Correspondent.

LONDON, Saturday, Dec. 10, 1870.

The heart of England is deeply stirred with all the terrible suffering of this war. The Countess DE GASPARIN sends a most eloquent appeal from Switzerland to French women everywhere in behalf of the French prisoners in Germany, who, she says, are suffering terribly for want of food and clothing. An English lady of rank has started to collect funds all over England for the robbed and starving French peasantry. The English Quakers have sent delegates with large funds to help the spoiled peasantry around Metz. The great Quaker bankers, merchants and brewers have subscribed their hundreds of pounds, and the fund now is £20,000. Solid Quakers have visited the scenes of war to distribute aid to the people, and the whole has not cost one penny for expenses. Those who go, gladly pay their own charges. This is very different from the International Ambulance Society, one item of whose expenses was $30,000 for advertising—mostly in the *Times*—and whose officers are all well paid, and many people, it is said, who have done very little for their money—idle, incompetent fellows, who were eating and drinking in the cafés of Brussels when they were so sadly needed on the sanguinary fields of Sedan.

One of these benevolent Quakers, Mr. WATSON, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, has published a diary of what he saw and did in the devastated villages around Metz. He was there a month, and came back to tell the people of England that unless there was abundant and instant help, thousands of people must die this Winter of cold, hunger and disease. And why, you may ask, should England feed, and clothe, and shelter the people of a district which Germany has desolated, ravaged, robbed and annexed irrevocably? Cannot all-conquering Germany take care of her future citizens, as well as spend millions on the destruction and subjugation of more? The simple fact is that she does not, and that the German Provinces across the frontier are in nearly as bad a condition.

THE PEOPLE AROUND METZ.

Mr. WATSON says of the people around Metz: "It is no exaggeration to say that in the numerous villages within reach of Metz, and in the little towns and hamlets thickly scattered over the scene of BAZAINE's desperate conflicts before he was inclosed in the citadel, the people are perishing for absolute want of the bare means of living; and that even those who can get a mouthful of food are in great danger from fever and dysentery, or of dying by quick degrees on the first approach of Winter. In many cases their dwellings are battered down, their crops destroyed, their orchards rooted up. All they have in the way of spare clothing has been either burnt or taken away; their Winter stores have been seized for the armies; their money, however carefully hoarded, has gone to satisfy military 'requisitions.' They cannot cultivate the fields, for the beasts of burden have been killed and eaten, or have died of disease, or have been carried off. Implements of agriculture are literally non-existent in many places. Even the seed-corn has been consumed or seized. The houses—such as are left standing—are literally bare of food (Mr. WATSON searched numbers of them and found nothing;) the earth yields no produce; help from France is hopeless, for in all the districts within reach there is nobody to give, the rich being brought down to poverty, and the poor ground literally to the earth. Wherever the Commissioners turned they found misery of the most appalling kind, yet borne with admirable patience. In some villages, where a little food or money happened to be left, Mr. WATSON and his friends were bidden to go on to others where hunger and disease were doing their work with rapid strokes. They found almost universal destruction; thousands of graves so shallow that portions of human bodies are struck out of them by the horses' hoofs; a horrible fever-breeding stench which turns the fairest villages into pest-fields; poverty, and helplessness, and despair."

A SORRY SIGHT.

At St. Privat, "in the middle of the dreadful fight of Gravelotte," says Mr. WATSON, "such a scene of desolation has never met my eyes. Fourteen houses are utterly destroyed. The Mairie is a heap of rubbish; the church is a wild ruin. The people told us with tears that now the Prussians were leaving them, they had nothing left. We could not believe it—the whole thing seemed too horrible to be true. I questioned the villagers on the road. We entered their desolate houses. We saw the Mayor's brother, and went with him to the curé. A young, worn man came out to receive us, and we entered his house and heard tales of unutterable woe. He was in the church all day—the battle raging around him; the villagers had fled, terrified. The wounded were borne in, and he was administering the Sacrament to the dying, when a bombshell struck the church and set it on fire, and in a short time it was a heap. I have a piece of that accursed shell! Now, to tell you of the people. The Mayor's brother has no clothes, no bed, he is in a mass of rags—all his clothes have been burned. The curé has simply lost everything. For many weeks he has slept on straw, and in the clothes in which he preaches—the only clothes he has."

These people, near 400, were on the point of actual starvation when the Quakers came to their aid. They walked eight miles and back to get a week's supply of bread and salt.

RUINED VILLAGES.

Peltry, near Metz, six months ago was a rich village, "with many new and important buildings, great farms, a fine church, and a noble convent, with a primary school for five hundred girls. The French bombarded it. The Germans left it. The French made sorties from it, until at length the Germans burnt it at night, and out of 107 houses only fifteen are standing; the others are a mere mass of shapeless ruins. Not one hundred people remain out of five hundred inhabitants, and these are all but destitute." At Crepy, a neighboring village, "every house is destroyed." The Mayor of this place, when war broke out, "was a prosperous farmer, with a farm and farm-buildings worthy to compare with the best of Tweed-side; splendid stables for thirty-five horses, byres for twenty-five cows, all manner of the newest machinery; all ruthlessly destroyed." "It is wonderful," says Mr. WATSON, "to see how these men are able to bear their losses"—"there is none of the mendicant element; no desire to make things seem worse than they are—but, perhaps, this is impossible." At Norroy le Veneur, "a beautiful place," there is the same destitution: "they have no forage, no bacon, no bread, no potatoes, no vegetables at all." At La Maxe, "a large new place," there were seventy-eight solid stone houses last July. "There is not one now. It is a city of the dead. I have seen no such entire and awful wreck." "A poor woman walked by my horse, and related her woes as we went along. At midnight, toward the end of October, she was sleeping by her husband in a house which they had built, and on which he had borrowed money. A loud rapping came to the windows, and they were told to leave in five minutes. She gathered a few clothes, took her baby, five months old, in her arms, and with her husband joined the villagers in the street. In a moment the whole town burst into flame." The Germans had fired it, and "all these poor people had was irretrievably lost." The woman's comment was most pathetic. "So quiet, so happy was our village," she said; "is it not *triste?*" "Indeed," adds the narrator, "it was *triste!* The saddest story I have ever listened to—utter ruin and misery coming in a moment. All was burnt—clothes, bedding, furniture—everything. You cannot dream of the desolation which surrounds us."

At Rozerieulles, for instance, "their fruit trees have all been burned, and for ten years they must find some new occupation"—the growth of fruit for preserving being the industry of the district. At Marsilly, near Pange, "all their crops are destroyed, and they have lost all their animals. Nearly all their bedding is burned. "We shall die of hunger',' the Mayor said, "if we are not helped." At Chateau Salins, seeing that people must die of hunger, the Mayor collected money "from all who could give anything, bought corn, had it ground into flour—and the Prussians came and took it all away." These people are starving. At Pagny "the soldiers pillaged wherever things were concealed, and the food gathered for a year was lost in a day." The firewood is all gone, the people are terrified at the approach of Winter. They have lost all their flannel under-clothing by a direct requisition. At Gorze—the last example we can quote—"more than twenty persons, the doctor says, have died from fear, and many from want of sufficient nourishment. The work-people cannot work; the smith has lost all his tools, iron, charcoal, &c.; the joiners their wood. 'I do not know,' the poor man said, 'how our people are kept from going mad!'"

AN APPEAL FOR SYMPATHY.

I hope you will find room for these extracts from this good Quaker's diary, and I have but two words to say about it. If the invaders have done this in a district they claim as a part of Germany, what are they likely to do in France? If this is the way they treat their future countrymen, what will they do to strangers? The German soldiers, while they remained, helped many of these poor people—their commanders and Government plundered and abandoned them. My next word is—are there not Americans with time and money who can find a good work to do in this unhappy France? For many years Americans have gone to France for pleasure and health. Will not some go now from higher motives?

TERRIBLE EXPLOSION AT BIRMINGHAM.

In the midst of the horrors and slaughter of the war in France, England has been shocked by still greater horrors, from her own part in the contest. A few weeks ago, in a Birmingham ammunition factory, fully employed in making cartridges for the French Army, an explosion destroyed or disabled nearly forty persons, thirteen of whom were children from ten to sixteen years old. Yesterday, another factory, engaged in the same work, blew up with a series of explosions, which instantly killed, tearing many to atoms, nineteen young women, and maiming and scorching fifty others, of whom twenty were not expected to live out the night. The explosions were heard for miles around, and thousands of people, especially the parents and relatives of the employed, rushed to see a spectacle far more horrible than any field of battle. The whole place was on fire—the wounded, burnt and blacked escaping as they could from the flames. These were carried shrieking to the hospital. When the fire was subdued the blackened bones and disfigured bodies of seventeen women were gathered from the *débris*. I leave you to imagine the condition of the fifty-three women and girls in the hospital, half of whom death only can relieve of their sufferings. And so the war comes home to us.

MONADNOCK.

Benjamin Franklin's Legacy to Philadelphia—An Effort to Make it Useful.

From the Philadelphia Inquirer, Dec. 26.

When BENJAMIN FRANKLIN died, in 1790, it was found that by his will he had made some peculiar provisions. Among others he left to the town of Boston and the City of Philadelphia each £1,000, upon the trust that they would lend out the same in sums of not less than £15 nor more than £60, to one person, at an interest of five per cent. per annum. The intention of FRANKLIN was to assist deserving young mechanics; and the parties who were entitled the beenefit of his fund were to be "young married artificers under the age of twenty-five years, who had served an apprenticeship in Philadelphia or in Boston, and faithfully fulfilled the duties required in their indentures;" and they were to give bond, with two sureties, for the payment of the money lent. FRANKLIN calculated that, under these provisions, the fund would increase so that in 100 years it would amount to £131,000, or over $650,000, and he gave directions how much of it was to be used in bringing the water of the Wissahickon Creek into Philadelphia. At the end of the second 100 years, he estimated that the amount would be £4,061,000, which he ordered to be divided into certain proportions between the City of Philadelphia and the State of Pennsylvania. Perhaps there never was a more remarkable case of miscalculation. We are now within twenty years of the end of the first century since this money came into possession of the City of Philadelphia. It ought to amount at this time to $250,000 at least. We have not the figures from the Board of Trust, but we know that the amount of the fund is less than $50,000. It has never been applied for to such an extent as to render its accumulation, by payment of interest and the accession of compound interest, anything like what Dr. FRANKLIN expected it would be, and, in addition, much of it has been lost by the dishonesty of borrowers, the failure of sureties, and by being swallowed up in that maelstrom of Philadelphia wealth, the Bank of the United States. Objects for the trust have also become scarce by the changes in our social custom. Artificers do not marry as early as they did in FRANKLIN's time, and the proportion of mechanics under twenty-five years of age who are married has diminished greatly in ninety years. Beside this the system of apprenticeship has almost gone out of fashion, and the requirement that the borrowers shall have faithfully fulfilled the obligations in their indentures shuts out large numbers of young men who would otherwise be willing to avail themselves of the advantages of this bequest. The amount to be borrowed cannot much exceed $300, and this, nowadays, is not enough to set any mechanic up in business. The Board of Public Trusts, which has charge of this legacy, finds itself embarrassed by the terms of the bequest. The Board has, therefore, resolved to apply to the Legislature for authority to make the charity operative by increasing the amount to be loaned, and taking real estate as security. It would be proper, perhaps, if it can be done, to change somewhat the qualifications required of each applicant. Substantially, he must be an American mechanic; but if the eligibility of the borrowers is confined to such mechanics as have served an apprenticeship, there will be few competent to claim the assistance. By compliance with the spirit and intent of Dr. FRANKLIN's will, it can be easily arranged so as to dispose of all these difficulties.

THE MERRY FESTIVAL.

General Observance Yesterday of the Christmas Holiday.

A Lively Time at the Public and Private Institutions.

Liberal Dispensation of the Good Things of the Season.

Rich and Poor Alike Plentifully Provided for—Scenes in the Streets—Parades of Target Companies and Fantasticals—Various Other Outdoor Pastimes.

St. Nicholas, the mysterious old personage, who is scarcely remembered except at this season, once a twelvemonth, has gone. The many treasures and gifts that he has scattered among us will be pleasant mementoes of the time and occasion. Between relative, friend, and acquaintance, young and old, his gifts have caused most kindly feelings, and, very likely, produced excellent results. He has been exceedingly generous this time—more so than ever before. Not only to one class has he shown favor, but to the rich and the poor, the erring, humble, sick, and unfortunate his gifts have been made. It is a most pleasant fact to record in connection with his departure that more kindly deeds have been influenced by his presence this year than ever before. Hungry men, women and children have been fed of his bounteous store. Sad hearts have been lightened by his cheering influences. Erring, groveling ones have been blessed with the sound of his good counsel. He has done good wherever he has gone, and he has gone everywhere.

Around no season of the year does there cling so many quaint and curious legends and beautiful and pleasant memories as around this Christmastide week. All nations have their popular traditions of this sacred festival. And while the grand witchery of "merrie old England" clusters most fondly to our minds in this connection, it is evident that we are nationalizing the matter. Yesterday's record of benevolence among our City poor indicates the character of our Santa Claus. While ideas of the chimney-corner stockings, the weird-like figure, unearthly steeds and sleigh, and the hob-goblin mid-air transit of this queer nonentity, is fast becoming obsolete in the precocious belief of Young America, the mythological sentiment is more favorably received than ever.

With more wisdom and matter-of-fact than our ancestors, we strip the strange legend of its mysteries, and establish a new pattern of charity, "Peace and good will toward men" in its stead. Those who witnessed the eager, happy, grateful faces of the throngs of men, women and children, at the Five Points, and other localities, yesterday, who were fed and gladdened by the hand of charity, appreciated the character that our Santa Claus will hereafter retain. The donors present declared the scenes the merriest Christmas they ever had experienced. Next year, this work of Santa Claus will, undoubtedly, be much greater.

THE DAY DOWN-TOWN.

Nearly every church-goer enjoyed the ecclesiastical jubilee last Sunday. Yesterday, however, everybody observed the social holiday with appropriate festivities. The sky, at early dawn, wore a bleak, inauspicious scowl. Surly white clouds lurked about as though threatening a sudden descent of snow-rifts; but, after two unsuccessful flurries, put on a more cheerful appearance; all business—public and private—was suspended. The Post-office and Custom-house were open until 10 o'clock. Subsequently the lower part of the City was as still as on a Sabbath. All the banks, offices and great warehouses remained closed, and the only occasional figures that moved about seemed as lonesome, wayward wanderers, out of place, time and element. Broadway, below Union-square, had no more travel than a country road. Even the great lower hotels seemed as monasteries, and the idling guests as refugees from the outside stagnation. The occasional rolling carriages and rumbling stages, plodding along, was the only variation in the scene, from an ordinary Sunday's monotony.

UP-TOWN.

Further up-town, amid marble halls, brownstone fronts and brick blocks, there seemed another atmosphere. There all was animation. Pedestrians filled the streets, and vehicles whirled over the pavements. The houses were evidently full of "merry Christmas. Happy faces brightened the parlor windows, which sometimes were brilliant with Santa Claus' *souvenirs*; and bevies of little ones displayed their glee in the full heyday of sport. Occasional glimpses through the basement window-panes, too, revealed the family circle gathered around the banquet board, discussing generous viands and delicate luxuries appropriate to the occasion. Cheery peals of laughter,—that music of wholesome bodies and hearty souls,—came out now and then, like the echoes of ringing chimes. "Walking down one's digestion," must have been the cause of so much pedestrianism, for the streets were as thronged as on Sunday, with pleasure and leisure walkers. On all the avenues leading toward Central Park were constant streams of carriages and light wagons of every description, rattling and spinning along in the one direction, toward the same goal. The cars were considerably patronized by skaters going to and coming from the skating-ponds. The ferries were crossed by comparatively few. The various railroad trains were but lightly loaded, very few passengers and but little freight being carried. The wharves and shipping wore an abandoned look. Even the rivers and bay were only plowed by the regular ferry and route vessels.

The theatres and other public places of amusement were very largely attended, and their extraordinary attractions greatly appreciated. It was quite remarkable to note the general quiet of the day. Although many very merry parties were out, their jubilations did not merge into lawlessness. Last night there were numerous gatherings for social mirth. Lights gleamed from many a window, the sound of nimble feet tripping time to lively music came from within, and a medley of joyous voices wakened the outer darkness, until the small hours came at dawn. Altogether, this has been the merriest of Christmases.

THE FIVE POINTS MISSION.

The chapel of the Five Points Mission, over which Rev. Mr. SHAFFER presides, was thronged, yesterday, by as many children as it could comfortably hold, and the aisles and galleries were crowded by ladies and gentlemen, who had come to witness the happy scene there presented. The decorations of the chapel were tasteful, and upon the platform was erected a huge chimney, toward which all eyes were directed, lest at some unexpected moment the mythical Santa Claus should appear and disappoint the careless watcher for his discursion. The congregation consisted of 600 children—boys and girls—about 500 of whom were regularly enrolled on the day and Sabbath-school books as attendants, and the remainder had "dead-headed" in for this special occasion. Many of the males were boot-blacks and newsboys, and a few of the girls engaged in the latter useful occupation, but all were gathered from the neighborhood, and were dressed as neatly as possible, in clothing furnished semi-annually—on Thanksgiving Day and in the Spring—by the patrons of this noble charity. The children were very orderly considering the exciting occasion of their assemblage, and even in their noisiest moods were not boisterous but simply talkative, discussing the possible merits of the revelations soon to be made by the man who would speedily come down that chimney. The exercises consisted of singing by the children, after which Rev. Mr. SHAFFER announced the presentation of gifts by Santa Claus, and stated that immediately after the distribution of presents from the platform the children would find, on entering the room adjoining the chapel, a bag containing fruit and candies. The signal was then given amid as profound silence as could be obtained, and out from the chimney popped an exceedingly good representation of Santa Claus, clad in furs, and with long, flowing white beard. On his appearance the whole assemblage became uproarious, and each little one seemed in ecstacies of delight. About his clothing were festooned dolls and other toys, while around him were large quantities of presents, all appropriately labeled with the names of the children for whom they were intended. As soon as order was restored the distribution commenced, and continued until all were satisfied, and the 600 happy children ran to their homes to enjoy, for the remainder of the day at least, the contemplation of the gifts of "Good Santa Claus." No addresses were made, Rev. Dr. OLIN, who was present, not feeling equal to the task, and it was thought best that the children's minds should not be burdened with listening to speeches. The directresses present were Mrs. OLIN, Mrs. WRIGHT and Mrs. SKIDMORE. There was no dinner given the children, but cooked and uncooked food were sent to the poor families in the neighborhood to which the children belonged, and thus were not only the little ones made happy, but their fathers and mothers also.

THE HOWARD MISSION.

A dense throng of bright childish faces appeared at the Home for Little Wanderers, better known as the Howard Mission, at No. 40 New Bowery, yesterday morning, increasing in number until 10½ o'clock, at which time fully 600 boys and girls of various ages and nationalities were assembled inside of the walls of the charitable institution. Here were to be seen, under one common roof, the fair and sturdy-faced German boy mingling with the sad-eyed Italian girl, and the ruddy featured Irish gamin with the pale-cheeked Anglo Saxon child, each of them exhibiting some kind of happy feeling, and giving the large room in which they were assembled an animated and attractive appearance. The Christmas exercises at the mission comprised singing by the children, prayer, &c. Addresses were also made by Mr. A. S. HATCH, one of the prominent patrons of the institution, Rev. GEORGE J. MINGINS, Mr. ALFRED TAYLOR and others, complimenting the "little wanderers" on their clean and cheerful appearance, and making mention of the kind and sincere interest which their teachers felt in their welfare. Then followed a fine and savory dinner, to which the recipients did ample justice. It took nearly two hours to feed all of the children, their wants being carefully supplied by lady attendants. The chief and most agreeable feature of the Christmas programme was reserved to the last. This consisted of a huge and elaborately embellished Christmas tree, whose green branches were thickly laden with holiday gifts. Neatly-dressed dolls were distributed among the girls, none of whom were left unprovided for. In addition to these, they each received a cornucopia, together with some kind of pretty toy. As they left the room they were presented with paper bags, containing oranges, cakes, candies and other toothsome edibles. The boys were made glad by the presentation of balls, kaleidoscopes, puzzles, &c., besides a liberal supply of confectionery and apples. The presentation of choice gifts to the young ladies of Mr. HATCH's class, by their teacher, next took place. They were given a box of handkerchiefs, or collars, or cuffs, or gloves, together with a handsomely-bound Bible, on which the recipient's name was printed in gold letters. Rev. WILLIAM H. VAN METER, the Superintendent of the Mission, took a leading part in the exercises, and at their termination he was pleasantly surprised by the present of a service of silver-plate. The presentation address was made by Mr. HATCH, on behalf of the little wanderers. By their united contributions the testimonial was purchased.

THE CITY MISSIONS.

The happy faces and the joyous smiles of the 1,000 children that gathered yesterday morning in Olivet Chapel, No. 63 Second-street, to celebrate the child-gift to the world, showed but too plainly that their City Mission fathers and friends had not forgotten them. The chapel was densely thronged, and the children sang several of their own sweet songs, including some original composed and set to music by Mr. BETCAR, City Missionary. Short addresses were made by Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. HUTCHINSON and Rev. Mr. MINGINS, on the character of the Christmas anniversaries, and extending cordial greetings to the little one, who at the close of the entertainment were provided, each with a little bag of candies, fruits, toys, &c., which they trotted away with, as happy as bees in Spring-time.

At No. 70 Columbia-street, Lebanon Chapel, the City Mission gathered in 322 children, an excellent showing for a mission school of only ten weeks' existence. Those children have been gathered from the homes of the very poor, and are such as for want of clothing and shoes, (which the Mission supplies,) had not been able to attend any school. They, too, were supplied with little bags of candies, cakes, toys, &c., and were addressed by Messrs. MINGINS, ABBOTT, MATIERE and DODD, the Superintendent, each of whom was received with rounds of applause, in which the children seemed to delight. They sang several Mission and Sunday-school songs. To-morrow evening a similar festival will be given in the same place to the German Mission children, who will be entertained at 3 and 7½ P. M. On Friday evening, at 7½ P. M., the parents of the children and the adult members of the congregation will have a holiday entertainment in Olivet Chapel, Second-street.

THE HOUSE OF INDUSTRY.

The exercises at the House of Industry, in the Five Points, consisted of services in the chapel, which commenced at noon. There were 250 children present, 195 of whom were inmates of the House, and the remainder were children who had their meals and clothing from the institution, but lodged at home. Mr. W. F. BARNARD, the Superintendent, in the course of his remarks, introduced the little child mentioned in the TIMES of Friday morning last, as having been found in a state of great destitution. Her appearance elicited the warmest sympathy, and immediately thereafter many of the throng of visitors deposited their contributions with "the old woman in the shoe," personated by a little girl at the entrance to the chapel. Mr. BARNARD also related an incident of two little girls, daughters of wealthy parents, who had held a fair recently, and obtained over $70, which they had donated to this charity. The little girls were not able to sell a doll which they had prepared, and sent it to the Home, in the hope that some one would be willing to give $5 for it. The toy found a ready purchaser. After addresses by Rev. G. J. MINGINS and Mr. JESSUP, the children went through a variety of pleasing exercises, and about 2½ o'clock entered the dining-room in excellent order, and were entertained with a bountiful repast, consisting of all the substantials and many of the delicacies of the season. To this ample justice was done, and none were turned away hungry. The little boys and girls enjoyed their meal undisturbed for an hour or less, and then, after a few remarks from the Superintendent, the children returned to the chapel, where holiday gifts were distributed from the huge Christmas tree which had been erected on the platform. The dinner on this occasion was quite as bountiful as that on Thanksgiving Day, in comparison with the number who partook of it. The visitors departed at the close of the exercises, well pleased with their entertainment, and doubtless resolved to do more in the future than they had in the past for this charitable institution.

CHURCH FESTIVALS.

At the M. E. Mission Church, Eleventh-street, near Avenue B, a Christmas festival was held last evening. There was a numerous gathering of the friends and patrons of the mission, nearly all the regular attendants of the church, old and young, being also present. This mission was established three years ago by the late W. W. CORNELL, at whose sole expense the church building was erected. It is a neat and well-constructed edifice, capable of seating about 600 persons, is well lighted, heated and ventilated, and in every respect adapted for the purpose for which its benevolent founder intended it. The mission is in charge of the New-York City Sunday-school and Missionary Society, and is under the pastoral care of Rev. WM. ROSS and Rev. WM. PLATZ. Mr. GEO. W. COLLARD is Superintendent of the Sunday-school, Mr. H. MOORE Assistant Superintendent, and Mr. CHAS. T. LEVINESS Secretary. The average attendance of pupils last month was 309, but nearly double that number of little ones manifested their interest in the proceedings last evening, which were not limited to either spiritual or educational instruction, but embraced sundry other good things peculiar to Christmas times. The exercises were opened by singing the chorus, "Sound the Battle Cry," which was followed by prayer by Rev. Mr. APPLEGATE, after which addresses were delivered by Hon. C. W. BUCKLEY, M. C., of Alabama, Rev. DAVID TERRY, Assistant Secretary New-York Missionary Society, and others. The music was conducted by MENAHAN RUGER, Esq. The festival concluded with a liberal distribution of oranges, candy, cake, &c., to the children, all of whom evidently keenly appreciated the kindness of their thoughtful friends. Next Sunday prizes will be awarded to the children, who during the year have been punctual in attendance.

At 10½ A. M., yesterday, the children of Trinity M. E. Sabbath-school, West Thirty-fourth-street, had their Christmas festival, which consisted of singing sundry hymns and carols, infantile recitations by little ELLA DALY and VIRGINIA STAGG, and an address by the pastor, Dr. FOSS. Little fancy stockings, manufactured by the ladies of the Sunday-school, well-crammed with candies, a box of assorted candies and fruits, and a handsome book, and a balloon were given to each of 300 happy little ones. Similar festivals were held in St. John's M. E. Church, Fifty-second-street, in the Alexander Mission, Seventh-avenue and Eighteenth-street, and in several other uptown churches, and the streets were enlivened with the merry laugh of children running home with dolls, and books, and other Christmas presents.

About 500 children belonging to the German M. E. Church, in Second-street, gathered in their church in the afternoon and were entertained with short speeches by the pastor, superintendent and others. The children were also examined in the catechism, commandments and Scripture lessons and answered the questions promptly and correctly. On their departure they carried away armsfull of toys and candies.

NEWSBOYS' LODGING-HOUSE.

On Christmas night during the religious services at the Newsboys' Lodging-house (No. 49 Park-place,) a very interesting event occurred. Two well-dressed, respectable-looking young men appeared who had been sent to homes by the Children's Aid Society, in 1857, one to Michigan and the other to Indiana. Both had been entirely destitute and penniless when sent, and were mere children—one ten and the other eight years old. One had earned money enough to get an education for himself, and was now a member of the Freshman Class of Yale College, in the same class with the son of one of the wealthiest and most benevolent men in our City, Mr. WILLIAM E. DODGE. This young man addressed the boys, and in simple, earnest words, told them how he had worked to educate himself, and what his objects were. He had been offered a farm of forty acres if he would remain in the West, but he felt it "his duty to do for others, something as others had done for him," and he was trying to fit himself to be a missionary to the poor and ignorant. The other had been kept at school by his employer till he was seventeen, and then had been employed in driving teams and other farm work. Finally his employer died, and left him his farm, 193 acres; of this he had sold eighty acres for $50 an acre, and had bought village lots. He had built a store and a house on the very spot on which he had landed in the Michigan village, a homeless boy, to commemorate the event. He was married and had one child, and was willing now to take a boy and help him as others had helped him. He couldn't take them all, he said, but he would aid as many as he was able to. He himself was a member of the Methodist Church, and was evidently very fairly educated. He mentioned the cases of numerous boys from the Children's Aid Society who had done as well as he had. "The Eastern boys have made their mark in the West," he said; "they are smarter than the Western." Both these young men exhorted the lads in the Lodging-house to take advantage of the party in the holidays, and get a home in the West. The boys and the audience of friends present were much moved at this interesting occurrence.

The newsboys, among the many gifts made them through their lodging-house Superintendent's hands, have received five cases of shoes from the proprietors of one of the large shoe manufactories in the vicinity of Park-place. They will be distributed, with other articles of clothing, to the little venders of the daily papers during the week.

The Newsboys' Home, at No. 327 Rivington-street, afforded a Christmas dinner to upwards of one hundred poor boys who pursue the various callings of the street. Through the generosity of Major PHILIP SCHUYLER the tables were laden with roast turkey, pies, cakes, nuts and oranges. Interesting addresses were delivered by Mr. SCHUYLER and other distinguished visitors, and the boys with much taste sung several Christmas carols. The decorations of the rooms of this institution were perfectly beautiful.

INTERESTING SABBATH-SCHOOL CELEBRATION.

The Christmas exercises of the M. E. Church, Eighteenth-street, near Eighth-avenue, were brought to a conclusion last evening, by a Sabbath-school celebration. A platform was erected over the chancel, from which tiers of benches ascended to a considerable height. On these the children were arranged, the boys on one side and the girls on the other. All through the church evergreen was disposed in graceful profusion, and appropriate scriptural mottoes were hung along the front of the gallery. On the platform, where 300 children, from fourteen years of age downward, were arranged in ascending tiers, the boys quiet and serious looking, the girls dressed in the whitest of muslin, with pink and blue bows and sashes, their eyes sparkling with youthful merriment, and all rejoicing in the day appropriately their own. The exercises began with a beautiful chorus, "We Come with Song," after which prayer was offered up by Dr. CRAWFORD. The opening address was delivered by Master CRAWFORD, and then the exercises of the evening were unfolded in very pleasing successions. These consisted of amusing dialogues, solos, duets, choruses and recitations, all of which were rendered with wonderful accuracy, considering the tender years of the artists. During the evening some ladies of more advanced years favored the audience with some excellent singing. "I Can't Sing the Old Song," a solo by Miss L. FINCH, elicited warm applause. The "Gleaners," an allegorical piece, was well performed by eight of the children. The dialogue "The Spinning-wheel," was the most interesting feature of all. A genuine spinning-wheel over 100 years old, which had been transported from Sing Sing for the occasion, was placed on the stage, and around this sacred relic of bygone days twelve beautiful living specimens of the present were grouped. The past and the present. Who does not in such company think of his great grand-mother, and of the changes that a century has wrought in our mundane sphere? Alas! "Old times are changed, old manners gone." An old lady, or rather the fictitious presentment of one, sat beside the wheel and industriously plied the wool. A buzzing sound was produced, which did not seem to suit the pianist, who struck up a lively air on the musical instrument with which modern ladies are best acquainted. Thereupon a musical contest took place between the old lady and the young one on their respective instruments. Victory was for some time uncertain, but the sweet notes of the piano followed each other so rapidly that the old lady was obliged to confess supremacy of the present over the past. A pleasing piece, which was not set down in the programme, was enacted during the evening, in the form of a surprise presentation to Prof. ATWOOD, the Superintendent of the school, to whose zeal much of its success is due. The present consisted of a handsome silver tea-service, which was presented by Dr. CRAWFORD, in behalf of the officers and teachers of the school. Mr. ATWOOD, to whom this was a genuine surprise, on rising to reply was assailed by seven of the children in turn who sang the amusing ditty of "Better rub than rust," to the intense delight of all present. Before separating, the children who had distinguished themselves by regular attendance and exemplary conduct, were presented with handsome books, which will keep alive in their youthful minds pleasing memories of the Christmas of 1870. After "Over in the Promised Land" and "Beautiful Home" had been sung and the benediction pronounced, the pleasing Christmas drama was brought to a close.

THE WILSON MISSION.

One of the most interesting observances of the day was the festival of the Wilson Mission at the corner of Eighth-street and Avenue A. The children attached to the Industrial School, to the number of 400, gathered in the chapel at 10 o'clock in the morning. The room was beautifully ornamented with evergreens. Two large tables were loaded down with paper bags filled with confectionery, nuts and toys. The services were conducted as usual by the the pastor, Rev. LIVINGSTON WILLARD. Rev. Messrs. WEED and THURBER made pleasant addresses, the children sang sweetly, and the gifts were distributed. The spectacle of those 400 grateful and happy faces was worth a prize to see.

ST. BARNABAS MISSION.

At 5 P. M., in the chapel at St. Barnabas Mission, No. 304 Mulberry-stree, the friends and patrons repaired to the mission parlor adjoining, where a beautiful Christmas tree had been prepared. It reached to the ceiling, and spread its branches out to the walls on either side. Tiny candles, spangles, stars, candy ornaments, neatly dressed dolls, trumpets, &c., thickly clustered among the leaves. The twinkling lights reflected against these vari-colored articles produced a most charming effect. Interesting addresses were made by Rev. Dr. PETERS, Rev. Mr. WARNER, and others. The tree was then stripped, and its contents distributed among the happy recipients. Such exclamations of delight, such a group of radiant faces and such a glow of kindly feeling, is rarely witnessed.

THE TOMBS.

The Commissioners of Public Charities and Correction provided several hundred pounds of chickens yesterday for a Christmas dinner to those under their care as criminals. At the Tombs Warden STACOM held high carnival, and, assisted by Mr. MARK FINLEY, his clerk, and Mrs. FOSTER, the matron, gave all the prisoners a really excellent dinner. During the forenoon the cooks peeled two barrels of potatoes and prepared a large pile of poultry for the three large cauldrons already simmering and steaming in anticipation, the result being a gigantic chicken pot-pie, sufficient for the 300 persons incarcerated within the gloomy walls of the prison. Burglars and highwaymen, sneak thieves

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NEW PUBLICATIONS.

FAUST IN ENGLISH.

FAUST. A Tragedy. By JOHANN WOLFGANG VON GOETHE. The First Part. Translated, in the original metres, by BAYARD TAYLOR. Boston: FIELDS, OSGOOD & CO.

To American genius and scholarship the English reading public is indebted for three master-pieces of poetic translation—to LONGFELLOW for DANTE's immortal poem, to BRYANT for HOMER, and to BAYARD TAYLOR for the only version of GOETHE's *Faust* which a student of the original can read with pleasure and approval. Of the three, the latter was undoubtedly the most difficult task. Many clever men of letters had already tried their hands upon it, only to fail; and so signal were their failures that, while students of German had learned to class *Faust* among the untranslatable works, those who were acquainted with it only through the melancholy travesties of GOWER, ANSTER, BLACKIE, or even the singularly literal and yet unfaithful prose version of HAYWARD, came to regard GOETHE's great drama as a vastly overrated work, and to wonder how its fame was acquired. We congratulate all such disbelievers and scoffers on having at last within reach the means to form a correct judgment of one of the most remarkable poems of modern times. Mr. TAYLOR's version is certainly not entirely free from blemishes and imperfections; but, while no one would more readily admit their existence than the fine poet and accurate scholar who has given the best part of twenty years to the study of this poem, we can affirm, after a thorough and careful examination, that the translation has singularly few of those errors from which no work of this kind can be wholly free.

In translating into the exact metres of the original, Mr. TAYLOR greatly increased the difficulty of his task; yet he could not do otherwise, in justice to GOETHE's work. There are poems in which ideas and feeling depend very much upon form and style for their impression on the reader's mind. Oftentimes they cannot, without essential loss, be separated from the very words of the poet. In them the thought or feeling may be sweet, touching, beautiful, and instinct with life; in other words, the same thought may appear flat and commonplace, while feeling almost invariably evaporates in the process of transfusion. Modern poetry exhibits many high examples of this exquisite interblending of thought and style, of inspiration and art; but its very highest development is to be found in GOETHE's *Faust*. This wonderful work is not simply a poem, for other than poetic elements enter largely into its structure. Keen wit, withering sarcasm, the profoundest truths of profane and Christian philosophy, worldly wisdom, manifold phases of human life, heaven, earth, and hell, are here blended as in a fantastic dream. Thus outwardly erratic, and full of abrupt transitions, running through the circle of human knowledge, hopes, fears, disappointments, and sorrows, passing, in the poet's own language,

"From heaven across the world to hell."

the poem, of necessity, assumed a free, variable, and often abrupt and fantastic form of rhythm, and no translation can give a correct idea of the original, which does not also reflect this peculiarity of form. It would not, indeed, be necessary to copy exactly the measure of every line, or the very order of the rhymes, (although Mr. TAYLOR aims at this precision, and with marvelous success,) but the general character of the rhythm of the translation must correspond to that of the original, or a false impression will be made on the reader's mind. For this reason HAYWARD'S prose rendering of *Faust* bears much the same relation to that work which a coarse lithographic copy of RAPHAEL's "Madonna di San Sisto" does to the original; and, with the exception of that of Mr. BROOKS', no metrical translation previous to Mr. TAYLOR's was much better.

The characteristics of Mr. TAYLOR's translation are fidelity to the form, thought, and spirit of the original, and lyrical fire and fluency of versification. His success in combining the freedom and ease of original verse with an almost literal rendering of the meaning is, we believe, unique in English literature. In his plan, that of translating in the "original metres," he was anticipated by Mr. BROOKS, who, however, never hesitated to sacrifice meaning to rhyme, whereas Mr. TAYLOR admits that if "now and then there was an inevitable alternative of meaning or music," he gave the preference to the former; but he adds that his task was cheered by the discovery that the more closely he reproduced the language of the original, the more of its rhythmical character was transferred at the same time. Without binding himself to a rigid, unyielding adherence to every foot, line and rhyme of the German poem, he has taken fewer liberties with the text than any of his predecessors; and those which he has taken are unimportant. "Since the greater part of the work," he remarks, in his preface, "is written in an irregular measure, the lines varying from three to six feet, and the rhymes arranged according to the author's will, I do not consider that an occasional change in the number of feet, or order of rhyme, is any violation of the metrical plan. The single slight liberty I have taken with the lyrical passages is in Margaret's song, 'The King of Thule,' in which, by omitting the alternate feminine rhymes, yet retaining the metre, I was enabled to make the translation strictly literal. If, in two or three instances, I have left a line unrhymed, I have balanced the omission by giving rhymes to other lines which stand unrhymed in the original text. For the same reason, I make no apology for the imperfect rhymes, which are frequently a translation as well as a necessity. * * * * I cannot hope to have been always successful; but I have at least labored long and patiently, bearing constantly in mind not only the meaning of the original and the mechanical structure of the lines, but also that subtile and haunting music which seems to govern rhythm instead of being governed by it."

Of all translators of *Faust* who preceded Mr. TAYLOR, only one (Mr. BROOKS) attempted to follow out a similar plan, and he with but indifferent success. A man of excellent scholarship, and conscientiously desirous to present a faithful version of the original, he lacked the poetic sentiment without which no translator can hope to reproduce *Faust* in English verse. In many passages his version exhibits a total want of the lyric fire and fluency of rhythm which characterize the original, and in others, a lowering of the tone through the use of words which are literal but not poetically equivalent. In fact, with the single exception of SHELLEY, Mr. TAYLOR is the first translator of *Faust* in whom were combined all the qualifications essential to the successful performance of the work; and SHELLEY's spirited fragment shows that even he would have given us quite another *Faust* from that of the German poet. The original acted on his mind with the force of inspiration, and he could not help occasionally substituting his own for GOETHE's thoughts. But Mr. TAYLOR, himself a poet of high imagination, and gifted with exceptional command of the resources of the English language, entered upon his great work with the determination to present a version of *Faust* which should be faithful alike to the meaning, the spirit and the poetic form of the original. It was a difficult task, but was worthily executed, as will be shown in the extracts that follow.

In no passages, we think, is the superiority of Mr. TAYLOR's version over the efforts of preceding translators, more apparent than in the songs and choruses. Take, for example, the majestic chant of the archangels, that opens the "Prologue in Heaven," of which SHELLEY truly says: "It is impossible to represent in another language the melody of the versification—even the volatile strength and delicacy of the ideas escape in a translation, and the reader is surprised to find a *caput mortuum*." SHELLEY's own translation is spirited and poetical, and almost literal; but we think it is excelled in all these qualities by that of Mr. TAYLOR, which we append. "The three archangels advance," says Mr. TAYLOR, "in the order of their dignity, as it is given in the *Celestial Hierarchy* of DIONYSIUS AREOPAGITA; Raphael, the inferior, commences, and Michael, the chief, closes the chant:"

RAPHAEL.

The sun-orb sings, in emulation,
'Mid brother spheres, his ancient round:
His path predestined through Creation,
He ends with step of thunder-sound.
The angels from his visage splendid
Draw power, whose measure none can say;
The lofty works, uncomprehended,
Are bright as on the earliest day.

GABRIEL.

And swift, and swift beyond conceiving,
The splendor of the world goes round,
Day's Eden brightness still relieving
The awful Night's intense profound:
The ocean tides in foam are breaking,
Against the rocks' deep bases hurled,
And both, the spheric race partaking,
Eternal, swift, are onward whirled!

MICHAEL.

And rival storms abroad are surging
From sea to land, from land to sea,
A chain of deepest action forging
Round all, in wrathful energy.
There flames a desolation, blazing
Before the Thunder's crashing way:
Yet, Lord, Thy messengers are praising
The gentle movement of Thy Day.

THE THREE.

Though still by them uncomprehended,
From these the angels draw their power,
And all Thy works, sublime and splendid,
Are bright as in Creation's hour.

The whole of the grand soliloquy with which the tragedy proper opens, is rendered by Mr. TAYLOR with great power. Faust, disheartened by the emptiness of human knowledge, (not as COLERIDGE understood it, misled by a "*hatred* and depreciation of knowledge, caused by an original intense thirst of knowledge baffled,") resolves to seek supernatural aid in solving the dark problems of philosophy. He has explored the heights and depths of human learning, only to find "that nothing can be known;" wherefore he exclaims:

"From Magic I seek assistance,
That many a secret perchance I reach
Through spirit-power and spirit-speech,
And thus the bitter task forego
Of saying the things I do not know,—
That I may detect the inmost force
Which binds the world, and guides its course;
Its germs, productive powers explore,
And rummage in empty words no more!"

In reading this remarkable scene, we must imagine Faust, prematurely gray and bent from long poring over musty books and papers, sitting restless and absorbed, at his desk in a lofty-arched, narrow Gothic chamber. A single lamp serves to illuminate his table: the rest of the apartment is dark and shadowy. As he thus gives utterance to his despair, his eye catches sight of the moon shining through the narrow window panes; for an instant, softer emotions take possession of his soul, and this beautiful invocation rises to his lips:

"O full and splendid Moon, whom I
Have, from this desk, seen climb the sky
So many a midnight—would thy glow
For the last time beheld my woe!
Ever thine eye, most mournful friend,
O'er books and papers saw me bend;
But would that I, on mountains grand,
Amid thy blessed light could stand,
With spirits through mountain-caverns hover,
Float in thy twilight the meadows over,
And, freed from the fumes of lore that swathe me,
To health in thy dewy fountains bathe me!"

Recalled to the realities of existence by a glance at the "drear, accursed masonry" of his chamber,

"Where even the welcome daylight strains
But duskly through the painted panes.
Hemmed in by many a toppling heap
Of books worm-eaten, gray with dust,
Which to the vaulted ceiling creep,
Against the smoky paper thrust,—"

he opens the "book of mystery," written by the very hand of Nostradamus, and perceives the sign of the Macrocosm. A beautiful vision of the universe rises before him, as he contemplates the sign, creative Nature unfolds before his soul. He perceives the heavenly forces rising and descending, and filling all the spheres with unceasing harmony. The grandeur and immensity of the vision weigh upon him, and drive him back upon his own impotence and littleness:

"How grand a show! but, ah! a show alone.
Thee, boundless Nature, how make thee my own?
Where you, ye breasts? Founts of all Being, shining,
Whereon hang Heaven's and Earth's desire,
Whereto our withered hearts aspire,—
Ye flow, ye feed: and am I vainly pining?"

To escape the influence of this vision, Faust turns the leaves impatiently, and perceives the sign of the Earth-Spirit. The sight inspires and exhilarates him. "Thou, Spirit of the Earth," he exclaims, "art nearer to me;"

"Even now my powers are loftier, clearer;
I glow, as drunk with new-made wine:
New strength and heart to meet the world incite me,
The woe of earth, the bliss of earth, invite me,
And though the shock of storms may smite me,
No crash of shipwreck shall have power to fright me!
Clouds gather over me—
The moon conceals her light—
The lamp's extinguished!—
Mists rise—red, angry rays are darting
Around my head!—There falls
A horror from the vaulted roof,
And seizes me!
I feel thy presence, Spirit I invoke!
Reveal thyself!
Ha! in my heart what rending stroke!
With new impulsion
My senses heave in this convulsion!
I feel thee draw my heart, absorb, exhaust me:
Thou must! thou must! and though my life it cost me!"

He seizes the book, and mysteriously pronounces the sign of the Spirit. A ruddy flame flashes through the room, and in the midst of it the Spirit appears. Overwhelmed by the sudden splendor of the vision, Faust averts his head in terror; but, roused by the taunts of his dread visitant, starts up, exclaiming:

"Thee, form of flame, shall I then fear?
Yes, I am Faust: I am thy peer!"

Not deigning to answer him, the Spirit breaks forth in this sublime, mystical chant:

"In the tides of Life, in Action's storm,
A fluctuant wave,
A shuttle free,
Birth and the Grave,
An eternal sea,
A weaving, flowing
Life, all-glowing,
Thus at Time's humming loom 'tis my hand prepares
The garment of Life which the Deity wears!"

This wonderful chant has never been so well translated before; Mr. TAYLOR's version leaves nothing to be desired. He has been equally successful with the beautiful choruses in short lines, and double and triple rhymes, which have been the despair of all preceding translators. Every one who is familiar with the German will be struck with the lyric ease and fluency which characterize these passages. Faust, repulsed by the Earth Spirit, and disgusted with himself and the world, resolves to commit suicide. He is holding a cup of poison to his lips, when strains of sweet and solemn chanting (it is Easter morning) break upon his ear, and win him back to tenderer thoughts and recollections of his innocent childhood. We give these exquisite chants, that our readers may see for themselves that this praise is not undeserved:

CHORUS OF WOMEN.

With spices and precious
Balm, we arrayed him;
Faithful and gracious
We tenderly laid him;
Linen to bind him
Cleanlily wound we:
Ah! when we would find him,
Christ no more found we!

CHORUS OF ANGELS.

Christ is ascended!
Bliss hath invested him,—
Woes that molested him,
Trials that tested him,
Gloriously ended!

CHORUS OF DISCIPLES.

Has He, victoriously,
Burst from the vaulted
Grave, and all-gloriously
Now sits exalted?
Is He, in glow of birth,
Rapture creative near?
Ah! to the woe of earth
Still are we native here.
We, his aspiring
Followers, Him we miss;
Weeping, desiring,
Master, Thy bliss!

CHORUS OF ANGELS.

Christ is arisen,
Out of Corruption's womb:
Burst ye the prison,
Break from your gloom!
Praising and pleading him,
Lovingly needing him,
Brotherly feeding him,
Preaching and speeding him,
Blessing, succeeding Him,
Thus is the Master near,—
Thus is He here!

Passing over the animated scene before the City gate, where Faust once more mingles with his fellows, we select, as a fine specimen of fluent and at the same time faithful translation, the famous passage where the heart-weary Master, just before the encounter with the mysterious poodle (who turns out to be Mephistopheles in disguise) sits musing at sunset on a hill-side, and, speaking half to himself and half to his prosy attendant Wagner, gives this beautifully sad utterance to his thoughts:

"Mark how, beneath the evening sunlight's glow,
The green-embosomed houses glitter!
The glow retreats, done is the day of toil;
It yonder hastes, new fields of life exploring;
Ah, that no wing can lift me from the soil,
Upon its track to follow, follow soaring!
Then would I see eternal Evening gild
The silent world beneath me glowing,
On fire each mountain-peak, with peace each valley filled,
The silver brook to golden rivers flowing.
The mountain-chain, with all its gorges deep,
Would then no more impede my godlike motion;
And now before mine eyes expands the ocean
With all its bays, in shining sleep!
Yet, finally, the weary god is sinking;
The new-born impulse fires my mind,—
I hasten on, his beams eternal drinking,
The Day before me and the Night behind,
Above me heaven unfurled, the floor of waves beneath me,—
A glorious dream! though now the glories fade.
Alas! the wings that lift the mind no aid
Of wings to lift the body can bequeath me.
Yet in each soul is born the pleasure
Of yearning onward, upward and away,
When o'er our heads, lost in the vaulted azure,
The lark sends down his flickering lay,—
When over crags and piny highlands
The poising eagle slowly soars,
And over plains and lakes and islands
The crane sails by to other shores."

To every one who is familiar with the original, the translation of the closing lines of this beautiful passage is like a melodious echo. In delicacy of feeling and expression, and subtle harmony of rhythm, it is a perfect reproduction of the qualities of GOETHE's verse. The use of "flickering," to describe the intermitting, quavering carol of the lark, which may, at first thought, appear strange, is a bold and beautiful stroke of imagination, and embodies an image as graceful as it is true to nature. The only line in the whole passage to which objection can be raised is that ending, "though now the glories fade,"—in itself a commonplace expression, and not a correct translation. The original reads,

"Ein schöner Traum, indessen sie [*i. e.*, the sun,] entweicht,"

(A glorious dream,—meanwhile he sinks away)—that is, the sun, which Faust in imagination follows through his glorious journey, bearing eternal day around the world. The vague phrase in Mr. TAYLOR's translation robs the imagery of its beautiful suggestiveness.

The interviews between Faust and Mephistopheles, before the compact is made, are rendered with vigor and spirit. We should like to quote the exquisite translation of the song commencing

"Vanish, ye darkling
Arches above him!
Loveliest weather,
Born of blue ether.
Break from the sky!" &c.,

which no one has ever given before with half the delicacy and lyric feeling, but must pass it by, to give the robust rendering of the compact itself. Mephistopheles has promised Faust, as his share of the bargain, such gifts as "no man ever saw," and Faust replies:

"Canst thou, poor Devil, give me whatsoever?
When was a human soul, in its supreme endeavor,
E'er understood by such as thou?
Yet, hast thou food which never satiates, now,—
The restless, ruddy gold hast thou,
That runs, quicksilver-like, one's fingers through,—
A game whose winnings no man ever knew,—
A maid, that, even from my breast,
Beckons my neighbor with her wanton glances,
And Honor's godlike zest,
The meteor that a moment dances,—
Show me the fruits that, ere they're gathered, rot,
And trees that daily with new leafage clothe them!

MEPHISTOPHELES.

Such a demand alarms me not:
Such treasures have I, and can show them.
But still the time may reach us, good my friend,
When peace we crave and more luxurious diet.

FAUST.

When on an idler's bed I stretch myself in quiet,
There let, at once, my record end!
Canst thou with lying flattery rule me,
Until, self-pleased, myself I see,—
Canst thou with rich enjoyment fool me,
Let that day be the last for me!
The bet I offer.

MEPHISTOPHELES.

Done!

FAUST.

And heartily!
When thus I hail the Moment flying:
'Ah, still delay—thou art so fair!'
Then bind me in thy bonds undying,
My final ruin then declare!
Then let the death-bell chime the token,
Then art thou from thy service free!
The clock may stop, the hand be broken,
Then Time be finished unto me!"

We must pass over many scenes without remark, in order to lay before our readers the exquisite translation of Margaret's song at the spinning-wheel, when she believed herself forsaken by her lover. The deep pathos, the beautiful and touching simplicity of the original, are inimitably rendered:

MARGARET

(*At the spinning-wheel, alone.*)

My peace is gone,
My heart is sore:
I never shall find it,
Ah, nevermore!

Save I have him near,
The grave is here;
The world is gall
And bitterness all.

My poor weak head
Is racked and crazed;
My thought is lost,
My senses mazed.

My peace is gone,
My heart is sore:
I never shall find it,
Ah, nevermore!

To see him, him only,
At the pane I sit;
To meet him, him only,
The house I quit.

His lofty gait,
His noble size,
The smile of his mouth,
The power of his eyes.
And the magic flow
Of his talk, the bliss
In the clasp of his hand,
And, ah! his kiss!

My peace is gone,
My heart is sore:
I never shall find it,
Ah, nevermore!

My bosom yearns
For him alone;
Ah, dared I clasp him,
And hold, and own!
And kiss his mouth,
To heart's desire,
And on his kisses
At last expire!

We should like, did space permit, to quote from the famous scenes on the Blocksberg, whither Faust was swept by Mephistopheles, to drown remorse and recollection in the whirl and delirium of supernatural revelry. Since SHAKESPEARE, no wilder imagination has been shown than in this re-creation of the old legends of witchcraft and the black arts, no such wierd, unearthly fancy, no such torrent of startling imagination. Mr. TAYLOR's version is a wonderful triumph over difficulties which even SHELLEY chose rather to avoid than challenge, and reproduces the spirit, the bewildering rush of imagery, the fire and force of the original, with a fidelity and yet with a vigorous freedom of verse and rhythm which have never been equaled in English translation.

We take leave of Mr. TAYLOR's work with the conviction that it is a master-piece of poetical translation. It is, indeed, "Faust in English," and, as we have already remarked, the only version of the great German poem which a lover of the original can read with approval and delight. Mr. TAYLOR is still engaged in revising his translation of the Second Part, which will be ready for publication early in the Spring. His great success with the First, and more widely known part of the drama, will lead the reading public to look with impatience for the appearance of the second volume.

THE HISTORY OF PARAGUAY. With notes of personal observations and reminiscences of diplomacy under difficulties. By CHARLES A. WASHBURN, Commissioner and Minister Resident of the United States at Asuncion, from 1861 to 1868. 2 volumes. Boston: LEE & SHEPARD. New-York: LEE, SHEPARD & DILLINGHAM. 1871.

Next to Peru, the country of Paraguay is the most historically interesting State of South America. Peru is associated with the picturesque in nature, with the prestige of royalty, and the tragic issues of war; while Paraguay is engaging attention by its experiments in the ways of peaceful civilization. For the rest, the rivers of Paraguay are as full of power as the hills of Peru, and its placers of the surface and the sunshine are at least as valuable as the deep-delved mines of the latter. Lying within, or mainly, within the inclosure of its barrier streams, the Paraguay and Parana, and watered throughout by a hundred of their affluents, producing from an alluvial soil all the intertropical fruits in great abundance, and communicating with the ocean by one of the grandest rivers on the globe—*corniger Hesperidum fluvius, regnator aquarum*—that land of Paraguay, containing between the twenty-first and twenty-seventh degrees of south latitude, nearly double the area of New-York State, with about the population of Brooklyn just now, is well worth the attention of all "outsiders"—whether as readers of books, or followers of commerce, or men of the old countries looking for a home. And for these last there is another consideration which should not be passed over—the remarkable healthfulness of the climate. Mr. PAGE, in his book on the river surveys of that region, declares that, at the time of his visit, a few years ago, there was not a professional doctor in Paraguay. Mr. WASHBURN does not say anything to confirm this—thinking, probably, that the *quacks* would make up for the numerical deficiency. But as he does not seem very fond of backing any of Mr. PAGE's statements or views, and as others have agreed with Mr. PAGE on this particular subject, we may set down this sanitary fact among the other notable attractions of Paraguay.

The readers of this history are reminded that SEBASTIAN CABOT, chief pilot in the Spanish service, was the first who, in 1526, entered the Gulf of La Plata and passed up to the junction of the Parana and Paraguay Rivers. Mr. WASHBURN derives the name, "Paraguay," from the tribes of the Payaguas, now extinct—the canine letter being added in the misspelling of the Spaniards. But he might have remembered the oriental word *Bahr*, to be found in so many languages of the Old World, and also, no doubt, in the name "Parana," which, in the Mexican speech, meant "great water." CHARLEVOIX, a good authority, says it signified "sea" in the Guarani language: and we are thus justified in concluding that Paraguay and Parana—including Paraiba also—carry with them the same signification—a matter which may have some interest for those comparative philologists who are trying to find out the origin of the native American dialects.

After CABOT came MENDOZA, who marked the sites of Buenos Ayres and Asuncion; and after the latter came YRALA, remarkable as a very good Governor; and also as the only man in this history approved of by our author. The chronicles of those Spanish Governors have very little in them; and their general insignificance is mainly redeemed by the contemporary labors of the Jesuits. This renowned order, founded in 1535, had, in about a decade, its ardent missionaries in the New World, where they set up their "reductions" or stations on the waters of the upper Parana, and, spreading themselves abroad by twos and threes, began to draw the Guarani tribes within the pale of Christianity—leaving to them their language, one of the most expressive in South America, and teaching them a number of the most useful arts of life. They preserved for future times the native blood as well as the native language. No doubt this remarkable result was otherwise promoted by the Spanish policy or custom of intermarriage with the Indians, which has been in such strong contrast with the habits of the English and other colonists. But the influence of the Jesuits, who always set their faces resolutely against the evil of slavery, and preached the equality of men, had a great deal to do with it—more even than the climate. The story of the Jesuit work is the best part of the history of Paraguay—though it is hardly found in the book before us. From the beginning those churchmen maintained or asserted the free rights of their forest people, not alone against the Portuguese Mameluces, but also against the Spanish Governors and others who were bent on taxing and enslaving them, according to the regular custom of all *conquistadores*; getting the better of them, after appealing to the Pope and the King of Spain, and forming the Guaranis into little colonies of workers, on the "communist" principle. In this way they succeeded in making a sort of *imperium in imperio*, after an industrial plan, which certainly put to shame the management of the people in secular authority. Paraguay was happy in having such a system at work within its borders for about two centuries and a half. The result of this experience was subsequently evident in the orderly spirit of the Paraguayans at the period of their revolution, and during the quiet reign, as it may be called, of Dr. FRANCIA, whose stern policy of having nothing to do with foreigners earned for him so bad a name from the European writers of history; and it was the growing prosperity of Paraguay, under the Dictator, and his successor, that encouraged the second LOPEZ to rush, like NAPOLEON III., into a war so disastrous to himself and his country.

Mr. WASHBURN's book is a remarkable one; and chiefly because the writer differs so much from other writers in one respect. People, in general, who write on a subject, become partial to it, making things look as fairly as possible, and, in biographical cases, treating persons with a very pardonable tenderness. But our author has no weaknesses of that sort. He does not love Paraguay, nor any of its men or women. He rather puts it in the category of Uruguay, of which he says that the only man it ever had worth remembering was ARTIGAS, the robber, and "enemy of his kind." His face toward his subject is a frowning one; he is "bitter with it"—though we cannot finish the quotation and say "passing short." The first sentence of his book is somewhat questionable: "Till within a few years the country of which I propose to write was so little known, that but few people could tell anything more of it than that a region called Paraguay existed." The reading men of the last century heard a good deal about that country from such men as Helvetius, Raynal, Montesquieu, Voltaire, Southey and others—all of whom commended the social experiments carried on there; while, ever since the rise of Dr. FRANCIA, sixty years ago, most of the intelligent people of this century have read a thousand notices of Paraguay and its rulers. Our author shows the Jesuits no mercy. And yet they did a good work in Paraguay—even if their use of the crucifix and St. Thomas should be considered worthy of reprehension. Dr. FRANCIA, too, is treated with extraordinary severity—though there are some admissions of the author which are rather at variance with his general verdict on this personage. As regards the second LOPEZ—the other THEODOR of the last decade—we find the same caustic bitterness of language, such as may remind the reader now and then of that Roman VITELLIUS who said he "liked the smell of a dead enemy." For this latter part of the work, however, one is disposed to make allowances, considering the provocations and other asperities of the controversy referrd to—a controversy which can only be glanced at here.

The work before us is also marked by some faults of execution, here and there, such as would be natural enough in a writer whose vocation was more in the line of exasperating diplomacy than of historic literature. But the second volume, which is, of course, the more original of the two, will be always interesting for the story of the decline and fall of FRANCISCO SOLANO LOPEZ,—a volume *pour servir*, such as may enable the future historian to compare cotemporary notes, and give the world something like the truth of that complicated, roundabout and many-sided quarrel of Paraguay, so full of conspiracies and *tracasseries*. The history is brought out in good style by the publishers, and rendered still more valuable by its striking portraits of the Dictator FRANCIA, the first and second LOPEZ Presidents, and other Paraguayan celebrities, together with the photographic likenesses of Mme. LYNCH and some light ladies of her Court, native groups, and several excellent illustrations representing towns, marked localities, and pieces of natural scenery. Along with these we have explanatory maps of Paraguay and some of its localities, and the whole is completed by an appendix and a satisfactory index.

—Among the volumes lately published may be mentioned a new edition (the sixth) of FRANCIS PARKMAN'S *Conspiracy of Pontiac, and the Indian War After the Conquest of Canada*—a work whose value has long been recognized. It has now received some extremely interesting additions, chiefly from papers found in the British Museum. The book is published in two handsome volumes, by LITTLE, BROWN & CO., Boston.—*Romance of the Charter Oak*, by WILLIAM SETON. Vol. I. New-York: P. O. SHEA, 1871.—*How Nelly Found the Fairies*, "a grandmother's story," well told, and likely to prove popular with young readers. Philadelphia: LIPPINCOTT & CO.—*Lawrence's Adventures*, by J. T. TROWBRIDGE. Boston: FIELDS, OSGOOD & CO.—*Oakhurst; What Harry and I Did There*. By M. L. R. S. New-York: DE WITT C. LENT & CO.—*Scripture Doctrine of the Person of Christ*. Translated from the German of W. F. GEN, by Y. A. REUBELT, D. D. Andover: WARREN F. DRAPER.—*Lightfoot's Commentaries on St. Paul's Epistle to the Galatians*. Andover: WARREN F. DRAPER.—*Overland Through Asia*. By THOMAS W. KNOX. Hartford: American Publishing Company.—*Fifteen Years: A Picture from the Last Century*. By TALVI. New-York: APPLETON & CO.—*Garstang Grange*. A novel. By T. ADOLPHUS TROLLOPE. Philadelphia: PETERSON BROS.—*The Percys*. By Mrs. PRENTIS. New-York: ANSON D. F. RANDOLPH & CO.—*The Golden Ladder; Or, The Stolen Jewel*. By Mrs. SARAH A. WRIGHT. New-York: American News Company. 1871.

A Resurrectionist Captured in an Ohio Cemetery—He Outwits His Captors and Gets the Subjects Notwithstanding.

From the Cincinnati Gazette, Dec. 24.

It will be remembered that a short time ago we gave an account of the *modus operandi* practiced by body-snatchers in the pursuit of their repulsive occupation, and how the burying-grounds of the City and County Infirmaries and of Longview Asylum were depopulated of the dead paupers. We have now to record an incident of Wednesday night, in the history of CUNNINGHAM, familiarly called "Old Cunny," in which he was sadly interrupted while engaged, with two black experts, in elevating a couple of subjects interred in the grave-yard used by the City Infirmary, just in the rear of that institution.

It seems that this notorious veteran in the business, accompanied by his two stalwart assistants, started out, Wednesday night, on the avenue in his open spring wagon. The objective point was the burying-place of paupers, above mentioned. The night was cold and the air bracing. In order to keep the cold out and the animal heat in, "Cunny" stopped at the Avenue House, in Carthage, to "wet his whistle," between the hours of 11 and 12. He was also seen at 8 o'clock, when a party of eight persons, divining his movements, was at once formed, who followed him and his assistants to the grave-yard. Here, to the joy of the aged resurrectionist, he discovered two freshly-made graves, of two paupers, who had been buried the day before. The party in pursuit surrounded the grave-yard and commenced firing promiscuously at the ghouls just as they were in the act of raising the subjects from their last resting place. The colored assistants at once dropped their tools and escaped through the adjoining woods. Several shots were fired after them, none taking effect.

The party then advanced toward "Cunny," and told him to give himself up. He was told to hold up his hands, to show that he had no weapon in his pockets. But he was very obstinate, and refused to hold up both hands, resolutely keeping one of them in his pocket. An athletic fellow immediately brought a loaded rifle to bear upon him, but the cap snapped, and another was put on with the same result. This little accident no doubt saved Cunny from becoming food for the dissecting-room, and seeing the determination of his captors to summarily dispose of him, he reluctantly gave himself up, after sliding down a steep hill of 500 feet. He handed over a seven-shooter, and begged them to spare his life. He was then taken back to the grave-yard, where his horse and wagon were standing. It was then ascertained that the bodies had been uncovered, but had not been taken out of the graves. "Old Cunny," with his shovel, picks and spades, was piled into the wagon, and the whole party got in and accompanied him back to Carthage. He said he did not expect such a load of "bodies" to bring back. If he "could get $20 apiece for the party he would do well." On the return to Carthage he stopped at the Six-mile House, the Black Bear and another public house, and treated his captors profusely to the drinks, which cost him $4 or $5. He was then released, and started to the city with an empty wagon, while his doughty captors dispersed to their homes in the serene consciousness that they had done their duty. But while "Cunny" was away from the graveyard with his captors at Carthage, the negroes, who have undoubtedly been trained up in the detestable business by "Old Cunny" to the point of absolute perfection, returned to the graves, hooked out the subjects, put them in sacks, and awaited the return of the evil genius. He not long afterward made his appearance with his wagon, having thrown his captors off the scent by going back in the direction of the city. After they had dispersed, he cautiously returned to the burying ground and secured his load after all. It is fair to presume that he made the medical fraternity pay an ample amount of interest on the investment he made in drinks for the Carthage extemporized Police.

CURRENT NOTES.

Montreal is expecting to have a new Catholic college.

The next session of the Maine Legislature will be the fiftieth held in that State.

Boston has spent $698,396 for new buildings during the year, mostly for school-houses.

Gen. C. W. CUSTIS LEE has formally accepted the Presidency of Washington College.

A recent literary venture has, according to a Boston critic, hit the bull's eye of the target of the public favor.

Illinois has a paper called the Vienna *Artery*. Its circulation is not large, but it gives all the current news.

On the monument of the late BARNABAS BATES, at Mount Auburn, Cambridge, Mass., is inscribed: "The father of cheap postage."

The Philadelphia Alumni of Princeton College dined together on the evening of the 22d inst. Their Society numbers over 100 members.

A New-Hampshire man is said to have sold his right to a "hair restorer" for $100,000, after making a small fortune by its manufacture.

Mrs. PHEBE CRAPO, mother of the late Gov. HENRY H. CRAPO, of Michigan, died in New-Bedford, Mass., on the 22d, aged eighty-six years.

A Michigan man brutally beat his spirited horse a few days ago, and the enraged animal finally kicked him in the face and killed him. And the Michigan papers call this a terrible "accident."

Somebody rejoiced, with very good reason, at Plymouth, the other day, because the first proceeds of a herring fishery at Cape Cod constituted a fund for the support of a public school in the colony.

Some of the Virginians are talking of erecting a monument to Gen. WINFIELD SCOTT, and the Richmond *State Journal* suggests that it might be proper to convey the remains of the great soldier thither.

Miss HELEN AUGUSTA MOSLAY, of San Francisco, has sued one MORRIS S. GALVIN for $20,000, alleging that he did promise to marry her, and subsequently did unlawfully and injuriously (so far as she was concerned) marry another woman.

Col. A. W. VON SCHMIDT, who blew away Blossom Rock, in San Francisco Harbor, built the San Francisco Water-works, and has carried through many other public works on the Pacific coast, is coming East on private business, and will visit Washington.

"Widows are estimated by the square mile in New-Hampshire. Twenty to the mile is thought a good ratio." The Boston *Advertiser* says that, but it seems to be hardly doing justice to the widows. It has usually been admitted that a Miss is as good as a mile, and the widows may well object to being counted twenty for one.

The Richmond *Dispatch* calls upon Congress, if it has any money to spare for canals, to appropriate it to the central water line via the Kanawha and James River Valleys, uniting the Mississippi with the Chesapeake Bay, which, it contends, will strengthen the Union, and be the ever-enduring source of domestic harmony, strength and prosperity.

Ex-President ANDREW JOHNSON complains that during the late immortal war, as he calls it, the rebels carried off nearly all his books and papers, and even his tailor's shears, that he prized highly from having used them so long. He says that since the war many of his books have been returned, but those shears and his sign, "A. Johnson, Tailor," have never turned up.

A Florida ex-rebel and a Republican politician had a little encounter at a hotel dining-table, a few days since, in Jacksonville, the weapons used being a seven-shooter, a large carving-knife, and a dish of nicely-cooked meat. Result—all the other guests put to flight, four bullet holes in the wall, some broken crockery, a soiled floor, and four gashes in the face of the ex-Confederate.

Many Maine boys who have been prospecting out West are returning home, satisfied that no State is better than their own State after all. They report that throughout the West, and especially in the large cities, there are many young men out of employment, who are eager to work for their board, being without means of returning to their New-England homes, which they left to "make their fortunes."

The City Council of New-Bedford, Mass., has voted that one-half the annual income from the bequest made to the city by the will of the late SYLVIA ANN HOWLAND shall be expended by the School Board for the benefit of the public schools, subject to the approval of the Committee on Public Instruction of the City Council, and the other half expended by the trustees of the free public library, in the purchase of books.

The trustees of Phillips' Exeter Academy have published an appeal to the graduates to contribute funds to erect a new building in place of that burnt on Sunday, Dec. 18. They say it will cost at least $50,000; that the funds of the institution amount to but $120,000, and that it would seriously cripple the school, which has been doing "more for the aid of indigent and meritorious students than has been done by any other school or college in the country" to take the amount required for the new building from this fund.

A Montreal correspondent of a Massachusetts newspaper is responsible for these statements: "Society here is singularly different from what it is in the States. The Irish seem a different race. Many of the Irish girls are Southern-looking brunettes, an ethnic absurdity in the States. In fact, considering our geographical position, the number of tropic complexions among the women is singular. A blonde of the New-England type is as rare as a white crow. The women are all ruddier and stronger than American women, and make nothing of walking four or five miles in the bracing air of this latitude. Of course they lack the spiritualness of the Boston girl. Americans tell us that the position of women here is inferior to what it is with them, and very likely it is so. All the family drudgery here is done by the women."

The Lapine Family Tragedy—The Murderers Convicted and Sentenced to be Hanged.

From the St. Louis Democrat, Dec. 23.

Our readers will doubtless remember the horrible murder of DAVID LAPINE, his wife and child, his sister-in-law and her child, near the town of Potosi, on the night of Saturday, Nov. 19. Full particulars of the shocking affair, together with the arrest of the boy LEON JOLLY, who turned State's evidence, and informed the officers that the murder was committed by CHAS. JOLLY, his brother, and JOHN ARMSTRONG, his cousin, have already been published. The enraged citizens, after the arrest of the murderers, attacked the jail, and with an armed mob endeavored to capture and lynch them. In the assault, one man was killed and three wounded. The mob was, for the time, driven away, but as it appeared certain that the attack would be renewed, the prisoners were smuggled out of town and brought to this city for safe keeping.

Last week they were taken back to Potosi under the escort of a strong guard of militia for trial. Yesterday afternoon the trial closed, and the jury, after an absence of three minutes, returned with a verdict of guilty in the first degree, and the murderers were sentenced to be hung on the 27th of January next. As it was deemed unsafe to leave them at Potosi until the day of execution, they were again brought here for safe keeping by Capt. LEHMAN and his men. The party arrived here at 1 o'clock this morning, and the jail being closed, the murderers were temporarily placed in the calaboose. Both are heavily ironed. When sentenced they showed no emotion, their faces wearing the same expression of stolid indifference habitual with them.

Great difficulty was found in empaneling a jury, as nearly one hundred men declared themselves prejudiced against the prisoners, and refused to serve. The condemned are both young men, and one of them, ARMSTRONG, is married and has one child. They are miners by occupation, and of a very low order of intelligence.

NOTES FROM THE PEOPLE.

Mr. Macy's Explanation.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

Having been subjected to criticism in connection with the recent arrest at my store, on the corner of Sixth-avenue and Fourteenth-street, I beg to say that I regret as much as any one, that any innocent person should be wrongly charged, directly or indirectly, by me. My business within a few years has extended until my store now occupies the space of about seven City lots, and so great has been the throng of customers and visitors there, especially before and during the holidays, that I was compelled several years since, for the protection of my customers, no less than myself, to secure the services of a skilled Police detective at my store. During some days of the last week there have been at times more than 5,000 people in the store. Thieves and pickpockets are always drawn by such crowds. I wish only for the arrest and punishment of these common enemies of our kind. Of over 100 who have been arrested at my store for stealing, the case of Mrs. PHELPS is the first to which any exception has been taken. Should a mistake occur at any time, no person can regret it more than myself.

Respectfully, R. H. MACY.

NEW-YORK, Monday, Dec. 26, 1870.

New-Year's Tables.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

"There is a tide in the affairs of men," saith the poet; and when he said that, he meant to include women also. Certainly in the matter of placing wine upon New-Year's tables, the interests of men and women cannot well be separated. Women offer the wine; men drink it, and come home drunk to torment the women—and what is more, they will be very likely to renew it, if not to keep it up during the year, to the unspeakable anguish of their fair tempters, their wives, mothers, sisters and sweethearts. In this matter women suffer first, (mentally,) and suffer longest, at least. But we will not look into the great future. In any case, if women are wise, they will not begin the matter by putting any kind of intoxicating drinks upon their tables. And the women can do pretty much as they choose in this matter. There are very few homes, I fancy, where if the women decide not to have wines and liquors on their New-Year's tables, the men will insist otherwise, and now is the time to decide the matter. Already the question is discussed in many a household. Some, I know, will plead "custom," but just here is where the tide is turning, and if we will go with the tide this time, it will help us wonderfully. The first ladies in the land, at the White House and in Washington generally, dispensed with intoxicants on their New-Year's tables a year ago, and there is every reason to suppose that they will do so again now. Surely any other lady may, if she choose, make this an all-sufficient reason for not having them on her own table. I know we ought to have better reasons too—and so we may—but, since custom often tyrannizes over us for evil, why not take advantage of it for good, when opportunity offers?

If all of us who have felt and deplored the tyranny of custom in this matter will make a move now in the right direction, we may do much toward turning the tide which has for years been steadily settling toward intemperance from our New-Year's tables. Science, morality and religion may reason in vain against a senseless custom, but when custom itself comes around to the right, shall we not help it? What shall we say, ladies? Nay, what shall we do, and who is not brave enough to do right in this matter?

JULIA COLMAN.

A South Carolina Tribute to New-England.

The New-England Society, of Charleston, S. C., held its fifty-first annual reunion on the evening of Dec. 22. Among the toasts was: "The day we celebrate, dear to the children of New-England wherever they may be. May the return of it strengthen the ties which should bind us as fellows of this Society and citizens of a common country." A letter was read from Judge R. B. CARPENTER, the candidate of the Union Reform Party for Governor of South Carolina at the recent election, in the course of which he said:

"New-England, since its first settlement, notwithstanding some peculiarities of a religious and political character, which do not command the assent of my judgment, has ever been a fruitful field for the philosopher, philanthropist and statesman. With a small territory, sterile soil and inhospitable climate, she has and still continues to exercise a commanding influence in the affairs of the nation. The eloquence of her sons has been heard in the most important deliberative assemblies in the United States. The keels of her ships have plowed every ocean, and her inventions have lightened the labor of every civilized country. Her commercial, manufacturing, agricultural and financial systems are models for imitation. Her educational and benevolent institutions have been produced from no other soil, and are peculiar in their origin to herself alone. But above and beyond all this, and more important to the life of the State has been her reverential love of and obedience to law. Not the hasty enactments that a maddened majority may ordain today and change to-morrow, without reference to the rights or regard for the sentiments of the minority, but that stable, constitutional law founded in the justice and enlightened by the reason of the State. In this latter quality, South Carolina has more resembled New-England than the other sister States. The throes of the mighty revolution through which she, in common with her Southern sisters, has passed, and the train of social and political evils that have followed the transfer of the control of her educational and charitable institutions, in many cases, to the rapacious and unscrupulous, placing the government in the hands of ignorance, and the finances in those of mendicancy, have, to some extent, eclipsed the steady lights of law and social order. Let it, however, be our part, in common with all good citizens, to renew and replenish this affection for law, engrave it deeply in the hearts of our people, strengthen it by example and private virtue, and teach our children that, whatever attracts to life all that is charming in social or useful in the political sphere, we owe to the incircling presence of the law."

Explosion of a Kitchen Range—A Woman Seriously Injured.

From the Pittsburg (Penn.) Chronicle, Dec. 23.

At about 8½ o'clock this morning, while the preparations for breakfast were in progress at the residence of Hon. JOHN M. KIRKPATRICK, a terrific explosion, like the report of a cannon, startled the household. The report was immediately followed by screams, and Judge KIRKPATRICK and his wife rushed to the kitchen, whence the sounds proceeded. In the passageway between the dining-room and the kitchen they found a servant, Miss MARTHA WYLIE, who has been in the family connection for twenty-five years, lying on the floor, screaming and apparently greatly injured. Her clothing was on fire in several places, and a portion of the hair had been burned off her head, while she was so covered with soot as to seem more like a negro than a white woman. The fire in her clothing was promptly extinguished and she was removed at once to bed, where she received proper medical treatment.

In the meantime neighbors had run in, summoned by the explosion. The wood-work of the room was found to be on fire in several places. The kitchen-range, of first-class Cincinnati manufacture, had been reduced to atoms, and the fragments had been scattered in every direction. Every pane of glass in the two kitchen windows was shattered. Fragments of the range had struck the walls and ceiling in every direction, producing an effect almost the same as if a bomb-shell had exploded. The mantel above the range had its edges shattered in pieces; the plastering was knocked off the ceiling and walls; a chest of drawers standing at one side of the room had its drawers driven out of place, and a portion of its edges splintered, and glass was broken and wood marred in the pantry opening out of the kitchen. A more complete or general damaging it would have been difficult to effect in so limited a space of time.

The cause of the explosion was and is a mystery. At first it was supposed that the water had not been turned into the "water-back" of the range until after the fire had thoroughly heated the iron. But the injured woman states positively that she turned on the water before kindling the fire. The most probable hypothesis seems to be that an obstruction of some kind existed in the pipes, which kept the water out of the "water-back" for a time, and that when the water did rush in it struck heated iron, and caused the explosion.

With the exception of slight burns, resulting from her clothes taking fire, the only injury received by MARTHA WYLIE was a comminutest compound fracture of the right leg, between the knee and the ankle. There were no bruises or cuts on the person which would indicate that the woman, instead of being struck by the fragments, had been blown by the force of the explosion to where she was found, and received her fracture in falling. Her injuries are, of course, painful and severe, but her life is in no danger. She was the only person in the kitchen.

WEST CHESTER CITY.

Proposed Consolidation of the Principal Towns of Westchester County.

A Population of 40,000 to Begin With.

The Tammany Annexation Scheme Repudiated.

Cogent Reasons for Avoiding the Clutches of the Tammany "Ring."

The Committee of five appointed at a meeting held in Fordham on Saturday, the 13th inst., to consider the proposed annexation to New-York City of seven of the lower towns of Westchester County, and prepare another bill for legislative action at the approaching session, as having in view the organization of a new form of government for three of the lower towns of the county—yesterday presented the following report to an adjourned meeting held at Armstrong's Hotel, Fordham:

In considering the subject embraced within the resolution your Committee have necessarily had also to consider the question of the proposed annexation to the City of New-York of the greater part of the County of Westchester, nearly two-thirds of it in population and wealth, as proposed to be made by the bill upon this subject, which has been prepared and printed and is understood to have emanated from Mr. CORNELIUS CORSON, the President of the New-York Printing Association. The bill to which he has given paternity includes for annexation seven of the most populous and wealthy towns of the County of Westchester, containing a population of about 75,000 people, out of 132,200, which is about the population of the whole county. The towns which he proposes to annex compose the heart and the most wealthy and progressive part of this county. A very natural inquiry suggested by so radical a measure of change as is proposed by this bill, is whether the people to be affected by its provisions have asked for or desire its passage; and if they do, whether the terms and provisions of the proposed act are such as mete out equal and exact justice to all of its citizens in the way of representation, assessment and taxation, and in connection with prospective benefits which are claimed to flow from the adoption of this measure. Certainly no Democratic Legislature should be guilty of annexing to the imperial City of New-York so large a territory, with a population of 75,000 people, against their will! It is a cardinal principle of the Democratic Party that no people should be governed without their consent, constitutionally expressed and obtained, which suggests that this bill, if it should be considered at all by the Legislature, should first be submitted to the people who are to be affected by the radical changes proposed, and if a majority of them should desire its passage, then if there be no constitutional obstacles in the way, it might be passed with propriety.

OPPOSITION TO THE ANNEXATION SCHEME.

Your Committee unanimously report against the passage of this bill by the Legislature, because the area of territory proposed to be annexed is treble in extent that of the present territory of the County of New-York. A diffusion, therefore, of municipal regulation and government over so large a territory, would result probably in expensive and inadequate improvement, while if an annexation is to be desired at all, a concentration of improvement, produced by additional political power conferred by a municipal government, might with propriety be considered in reference to that portion of Westchester County which lies immediately easterly and southerly of the northern point of the present County of New-York—namely, a line drawn in an easterly direction from Spuyten Duyvil Creek at Kingsbridge to the Sound, just above Fort Schuyler. An annexation of this territory, containing now a population of nearly 40,000 people, provided it were made upon fair and just terms, would be one that the people of this section, if it were submitted to them for their vote, might approve.

But the radical changes proposed by Mr. CORSON'S bill, in the creation of four wards out of the seven towns of Westchester County, and having those four wards represented in the Board of Aldermen of the City of New-York by two additional Aldermen, making seventeen in all—(why not the old Hasserach and Ali Baba number?) to be elected by a general ticket, and having these four wards, each with representatives in the Board of Assistant Aldermen, with the most unequal population in each ward: 20,000 in the Twenty-third Ward, 30,000 in the Twenty-fourth Ward, 10,500 in the Twenty-fifth Ward, and 11,000 in the Twenty-sixth Ward, is so radically unjust and anti-Democratic, that no fair-minded citizen could support it. The change of the entire school and of the judicial systems now existing in this portion of Westchester County, to that of the present Police Justice and District Justice and Court of Sessions jurisdiction of the City of New-York, all of which is to occur in 1872 if this bill becomes a law, and the additional change proposed of making this portion of Westchester, after the next census in 1875, part of a New-York City Senatorial and Congressional District, and of a New-York City Supreme Court Judicial District, and the other additional change of removing, by "a great big Record Commission job," proposed by the bill, all the county records of titles and judgments from the county seat at White Plains to the City of New-York, thus uprooting and overturning the existing titles of more than one-half of the citizens of the county to their real and personal property, would result in creating chaos where order, system and good government now exist. It is for this and other reasons, which would occupy too much space to be embodied in this report, that your Committee have unanimously reported against Mr. CORSON'S bill as unworthy of serious consideration by any intelligent Legislature.

AN INDEPENDENT CITY.

The resolution under which your Committee act provides for the preparation by them of a new form of government for the lower towns of Westchester County, and in pursuance of this portion of the resolution, they have the honor to submit for your consideration their unanimous views in favor of the incorporation of the old township of West Chester, now constituting the towns of Morrisania, West Farms and West Chester, under one form of municipal government similar to that which was given to the City of Brooklyn in the year 1834. The time has arrived when the population of this old township of West Chester—amounting to about 40,000, nearly 20,000 more than the number which Brooklyn had when she received the benefits of a city charter—should receive the advantages and power of a good city government.

BENEFITS OF A CITY GOVERNMENT.

The growth of Brooklyn, marvelous in extent, and greater perhaps than that of any other city in the United States, if not in the world, may have been mainly attributable to the fact, that her own people received from the Legislature a charter which conferred upon them the power of making all the internal improvements which were necessary for her development and progress; and which have, since she became a city, made her within the last ten years the second city in the Union, and in her improvements one of the most beautiful. The benefits of a city government are exemplified, not only in the growth and prosperity of Brooklyn, but also in the growth and prosperity of Jersey City, which has more than quadrupled in population within the last ten years. No good reason can be assigned why the lower part of Westchester County, with its natural facilities for great develpment and improvement should not grow as rapidly within the next twenty years as Brooklyn and Jersey City have grown within the past.

ADVANTAGES OF WESTCHESTER COUNTY.

She is bounded on the south by the Harlem River, with a proposed canal connecting it with the North River, and which will probably be speedily constructed; then the two forming a natural canal basin for the laying up of vessels in Winter, superior to that of the Atlantic Dock, at South Brooklyn, and the bank of the river affording greater facilities for commodious store and ware houses. On the east, it is bounded by the East River, and by Long Island Sound. On the East River, just north of Harlem, we have Port Morris, unsurpassed for the anchorage of large vessels by any port in the world. The *Great Eastern*, with her immense size and capacity, formerly laid safely at one of her docks; and just above Port Morris, and about opposite Riker's Island, fronting the property of the late B. M. WHITLOCK, is a bay, affording the best place for a navy-yard in any of the States, inasmuch as here alongside of the East River salt-water frontage might be constructed a large fresh-water basin, to be supplied by water, about a mile distant, from the Bronx River, in the village of West Farms, large enough to float all the iron-clads of the world, and the corroding of the iron of these vessels when not in actual service, lying in salt water, requires their anchorage in such a fresh-water basin. The concentration of the Hudson River, the Harlem and New-Haven Railroads in their freighting and passenger business, at their proposed new grand depot, near Melrose and at Mott Haven, indicate that their immense freight and passenger traffic from the Pacific coast, and from the West and the East, all must, within a few years, centre near the Harlem River, within the present town of Morrisania. The land contained within this old township of West Chester, topographically considered, is more easily and better adapted to drainage than any piece of territory of like extent in the State of New-York. Sewers, streets and avenues may be therein constructed, so that for health and comfort, no city could, in this respect, be better improved. In the centre of these towns we have a valley, which is indicated by Millbrook, through which a grand sewer (like that of old Canal-street, in New-York,) might be constructed from the northern boundary line of West Farms to the southerly boundary line of Morrisania, on the Harlem River. The ridge of land west of this Millbrook, and bounded on the west by Harlem River, and the large easterly plateau extending toward the East River and the Sound are unsurpassed for natural beauty of scenery, for eligibility of building sites and for elegant houses by any other in the State; while the Harlem River, the Bronx River and the East River, lying in the centre of east and west and on the sides of this territory, form the natural and complete outlets for thorough drainage and sewerage.

INCREASE OF POPULATION.

To illustrate that the time has come when every citizen will admit that the old rural town government now existing in West Chester, West Farms and Morrisania should be abolished; that this portion of Westchester County is in a transition state, and is in many of its features a semi-city; that a government lacking proper checks and balances, power and responsibility of officers, which is the fact as to these rural town governments, is now totally inadequate for the march of improvements, which can only be legitimately produced by a city government having proper power to make necessary public improvements now so greatly desired by those who now are and who are to become citizens of the lower part of the county. The wonderful increase of population in Brooklyn and in New-Jersey, contiguous to the great City of New-York, prove that the time has arrived when a city government should be conferred upon this portion of Westchester County. The following enumeration of population demonstrates this:

IN NEW-YORK STATE.

Counties.	1870.	1850.	Increase.
New-York	926,341	515,547	410,794
Richmond	33,044	15,061	17,983
Kings	490,202	138,882	281,410
Queens	73,847	36,833	37,014
Westchester	132,288	58,263	74,025
Orange	81,503	57,145	24,358
Rockland	25,103	16,962	8,204
Total	1,692,478	838,693	853,785
IN NEW-JERSEY.			
Bergen	30,124	14,725	15,399
Hudson	128,275	21,822	105,463
Essex	143,850	73,950	69,900
Passaic	48,423	22,509	23,854
Total N. Jersey	2,041,150	971,759	1,044,228

THE PLAN PROPOSED.

The plan for a new city government which the Committee have reported, is nearly identical with that of the City of Brooklyn, differing only in its having a Board of Assistant Aldermen in addition to the Board of Aldermen. This was deemed proper because of its being more in accordance with the Upper and Lower House of the Senate and Assembly of the State, and of the two legislative branches of the New-York City Government. A brief synopsis of this plan shows that the proposed new city government would be composed of a Mayor and Common Council with nine wards, four of which are now the existing wards of the town of Morrisania, three of which are created in the town of West Farms, and two of which are in the town of West Chester. These wards will each have an Alderman, constituting the Board of Aldermen of nine members, and from each of these wards two Assistant Aldermen are to be elected, making eighteen, constituting the Board of Assistant Aldermen. The Aldermen and Assistant Aldermen are to serve, as was formerly the case in the better days of New-York City government, with the Aldermen and Assistant Aldermen, without pay. A small salary for the first five years of the existence of the new city government would be paid to the Mayor, and a fair salary to the different heads of the departments created by this bill, the different departments contemplated by the change—consisting of the Finance Department, with its head, the Controller, and the Department of Public Works, included within which would be jurisdiction over the streets, the water, gas and other local improvements, as now conferred upon the Commissioner of Public Works in the City of New-York. The Law Department would consist of a Corporation Counsel and Corporation Attorney, to whom, in the earlier existence of this government, small salaries would be paid. A general Tax Department, containing two bureaus, one to look after the assessment of property upon fair and equal terms, and to be known as the Board of Assessors, and the other bureau to consist of a Tax Receiver and necessary deputies. The Judicial system would consist of a City Judge to be elected, and who should have for the territory embraced within the new city limits the same jurisdiction in civil and criminal cases that the County Judge now has. In addition one Justice of the Peace is provided to be elected for each of the wards within the proposed city, whose jurisdiction in civil and criminal cases should be the same as is now conferred upon the Justices of the Peace in the towns comprising the proposed new city. In other respects the County Court and the Supreme Court, and their jurisdiction are to remain the same as at present. The Police, with a Board of Police Commissioners and a Superintendent, would be in such numbers and in compensation as the Common Council in their wisdom would see fit to designate and appoint. The school system, with the different Boards of Education, school-houses, apparatus and property, would remain and continue as now existing and constituted, subject only to such changes for increase of scholars and better accommodations as might be provided by the new government. The existing debts of each town are to be assumed and paid by the property, and the taxation thereon, in the new city; but each of the towns of that city is to be assessed and to pay therefor in taxation in proportion to the indebtedness of each town at the time of the new charter taking effect. In connection with the indebtedness, it would be well to state that the present debt of the town of Morrisania amounts to over $400,000, of West Farms to over $700,000, of Westchester over $400,000, making a total, say about $1,500,000. Your Committee believe that the work which has been done in the way of public improvement, and for which this indebtedness was created, did not exceed 66⅔ per cent. of its actual value. This was caused by the incongruous system of a number of special commissions appointed by different acts of the Legislature, and known as Boulevard Commissioners, who have power conferred upon them of issuing bonds, and which bonds, owing to the lack of confidence of capitalists and banking institutions, have been negotiated and sold at sums varying from 75 per cent. up to, in a few cases, of their par value. The contractors doing the work, and receiving these bonds in payment for the work instead of money, always in their estimates discounted the bonds at enormous rates. Under the proposed new system, one of the main benefits which the community affected by it would receive would be in the credit of the bonds of the new government being, as in the case of Brooklyn and Jersey City bonds, put at par in the market among capitalists, and a saving of at least 33⅓ per cent. would be effected in the value of the work, which would actually be thereafter done in the way of public improvements within the proposed new city territory. The rights of property-owners by the proposed change of government will be protected from special State legislation, from scheming and speculative boulevards made at general expense, and where those immediately benefited should bear their just proportion of the expense of construction, and should pay for the improvement where they are largely benefited thereby. In no case would any improvement of a street or avenue be made unless two-thirds of the property-owners fronting upon such street or avenue petitioned and desired the same. A general system of drainage and lamp districts, and of side-walks, and other legitimate improvements, would be made upon similar requisitions of the property-owners. By this plan would also be preserved intact the present boundaries of the county. The Senatorial, Congressional and Judicial districts of the existing system of recording titles and judgments will be recognized. The only strong recommendation of the plan proposed for annexation to the City of New-York is that, by it, privileges of the Croton water would be derived by the people living in the lower part of Westchester County. Considering that the City of New-York now has no more reservoirs than are necessary for the sufficient supply of that City with water, under the plan of annexation new reservoirs would have to be constructed in the lower part of Westchester County, the cost of which would have to be borne by its people.

Your Committee can see no good reason why they may not, through their representatives and agents in the proposed new city government, construct works for the use of the waters of the Bronx River and other fresh-water streams flowing into the lower part of Westchester County, for the erection of necessary reservoirs and works, and to give the citizens the same facilities and comforts of water which are now had in the City from the Croton Department, and this done, too, under the immediate supervision and direction of our people's representatives, and at a much less cost than would result from annexation. The area of land contained in the seven towns proposed to be annexed by the Corson bill is 46,517 acres, more than treble the area of land contained in the County of New-York.

OBJECTIONS TO THE PLAN.

One of the objections which have been made to the plan of a new city government is that its expenses will be large and burdensome. This is erroneous; the present Town Halls and other public buildings would answer the purpose for years to come of transacting the executive, legislative and judicial business therein, and no new public buildings would be built until the increased population and wealth of the new city warranted and demanded their erection. Your Committee, taking into consideration the expenses of the Government of the present towns of Morrisania, West Farms and West Chester for the past three years and for the present one, do not hesitate to say that the entire expenses of a new city Government under the plan proposed would be much less than is now paid in and by these incongruous Governments, where proper responsibility and checks and balances do not now exist, but which would be insured by the adoption of the new plan.

WILLIAM, THE CONQUEROR OF NEW-YORK.

The well-recognized fact that the City of New-York is now governed by a "Tammany Ring" consisting of not more than five prominent members, should induce the people of Westchester from motives of personal respect, from their intelligence and integrity, and in protection of their interests, to long hesitate before consenting to confer additional power of assessment and taxation, already too much concentrated in and upon this "Ring." The right of local self-government is one which, under our system, has hitherto commanded the respect of all communities, and they have been especially jealous of having this right destroyed, either by the centralization of the Government in the Legislature at Albany, or in the legislation of the Federal Government at Washington. An appeal to the intelligence and sense of right of the people of the lower part of Westchester County, whose history has hitherto been patriotic and honorable, should induce them to unanimously oppose the Corson scheme of annexation. When WILLIAM the Conquerer invaded and conquered Britain, the Normans called it conquest; the Britons, robbery. When King WILLIAM of Prussia obtains, if he does, Alsace and Lorraine, it will also be claimed under the right of conquest. But this is in a case where a war was unnecessarily commenced and waged against him and his people, and where he may be justified by way of "indemnity for the past and security for the future" in taking and exercising governmental control over those territories. When WILLIAM, the conqueror of New-York City, and his friends seek to take the lower part of Westchester County for an extension of their domain of spoilation and taxation, without the consent of the people of Westchester County, they may think, as the ancient Britons, that this too is robbery. A territory may be annexed by treaty, as was the case in the annexation of Texas; but there, as in the case of marriage, which is a civil contract, there must be the consent of the bride as well as the groom to consummate it. If the New-York politicians, who are looking with rapacious eyes upon the lower part of Westchester County, have the true welfare of the City of New-York as well as of the people of the lower part of Westchester County in view, they will never attempt to make their conquest by legislative enactment without first submitting the question to the people to be affected by it for their approval or rejection. The true mode of increasing the growth, wealth and prosperity of the lower part of Westchester County, besides having a better local government of their own, is to afford to it greater facilities of travel, to have the various railroads running through it, imitating the example set by the railroads of New-Jersey, which have been the means of increasing the population of Hudson and other counties in that State at a greater ratio within the last twenty years than any of the suburban parts of the City of New-York. The frequent trains, fifty-four per day, with the cheap cost of commutation to Elizabeth, (fourteen miles from the City of New-York,) has quadrupled that place in population within the last ten years. The want of hourly and half-hourly trains between Williamsbridge, intermediate stations and New-York, with rates of commutation largely exceeding those of New-Jersey, have kept all the lower part of Westchester County from receiving an accession to its population even greater than Elizabeth and growing places in New-Jersey have received during that time. With three trunk lines of railroad the most extensive in their operations in the country, the Hudson River, the Harlem and the New-Haven, running through Weschester, failing to give to it that accommodation which naturally it should have received, induces your Committee to urge upon the representatives in the Senate and Assembly from this county the necessity of compelling these railroads, by suitable legislation at the next session, to afford to the residents of Westchester equal facilities of quick and cheap transit now given by the New-Jersey railroads to those doing business in New-York City and who are now living in that State.

PRACTICAL RECOMMENDATIONS.

In conclusion, your Committee suggests the appointment by the meeting of a committee of three, one from each of the towns of Morrisania, West Farms and West Chester, to watch the proceedings of the next Legislature in relation to any and all proposed bills for the annexation or spoliation affecting the lower part of this county, and to adopt and take all necessary measures for the growth and prosperity of the old township of West Chester.

Dated FORDHAM, Dec. 24, 1870.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN B. HASKIN,
SAMUEL M. PURDY,
JOHN HUNTER,
JOHN FLANIGAN.

The unavoidable absence of G. HILTON SCRIBNER, member of Assembly elect, prevented that gentleman from signing the report as one of the Committee.

The report was almost unanimously adopted by the meeting, and the Chair appointed Mr. H. DE GRAFF, of Morrisania; JOHN B. HASKIN, of West Farms, and DUNTON PEARSALL, of West Chester, as the Committee called for by the report. The meeting then adjourned.

The Tien-Tsin (China) Massacre—What the Wife of a Missionary Saw.

We make the following extract from a private letter published in the Hamilton (Canada) *Times* on the 15th inst., from the wife of a missionary in China to her aunt in that city:

"Before this reaches you, you will have heard by telegraph of the frightful tragedy which has so recently taken place here, and although nothing more serious has occurred since that telegram was sent, we are still intensely anxious, not knowing what an hour may bring forth, for this enraged mob are still saying they shall not stop until all the foreigners are killed. Humanly speaking, there is nothing but gun-boats between us and death. There are now four English gun-boats in the river and one French, and in less than a week we may have twice that number. The French are expected with a large force, and we believe both the English and French Admirals will be here in a few days. I have neither time nor strength now to tell you about the origin of this sad affair. Now almost every minute is employed in getting information from our converts. Both the Consul here and the Minister in Pekin are begging for it. They seem to think the missionaries have a better chance of getting at the truth than any one else. For more than a month before this dark deed was done, both the officials and people had a strong feeling against the French. Every day it got worse, charging them with employing men to kidnap children for the sake of taking out their eyes, hearts, &c., to make medicine of, and on Tuesday, the 21st of June, the enraged people decided to commence their work of destruction, and that morning a mob gathered round the Consulate and the Cathedral, which are joined together—first killing the Consul and his secretary, a lady and gentleman, (who were on their way to Pekin,) four priests, and a number of native Catholics. After this they set fire to the buildings and made their way to the Sisters' hospital. There they killed nine of them by just hacking them to pieces and leaving their bodies to burn with the building. They next went and destroyed eighty of our churches belonging to the three missions, beat many of our converts and plundered their houses. Three Russians, who were on their way to the settlement from the city, were killed, and their bodies thrown into the river. One of these was a lady who was married to one of the gentlemen only four days before. They had gone to the city that morning to dine with a friend, but on hearing of the disturbance had turned back again. These two I saw picked up out of the river a few days after. They had both been stripped before thrown into the water, and the lady's fingers cut off to get her rings. Never shall I forget that morning, the 21st of June, when one of our converts came running into the house with a face as white as a Chinaman's could be, saying that the Catholic mission was on fire, and begging JONATHAN to send us on board the steamer."

CORRESPONDENCE.

SPANISH AFFAIRS.

New Financial Plan—The National Finance—Dissatisfied Contractors—The Vomito—Press Prosecutions—Attack on a Theatre—Spanish Liberty.

From Our Own Correspondent.

MADRID, Thursday, Dec. 1, 1870.

M. FIGUEROLA, strongly menaced with removal, presented to the Council of Ministers, yesterday, a financial plan which concludes in favor of demanding authority to emit new bonds to the amount of six millions of reals, or about six millions of pounds sterling, for obtaining which he proposes to alienate, during a certain number of years, the returns of the tobacco monopoly, and of the Custom-house in Spain. M. MORET, at present Minister of the Colonies, who is ambitious of replacing M. FIGUEROLA, has presented to the Council of Ministers a plan of general economical reform for the Peninsula. The Ministers have declared that they will investigate the merits of these two plans, and a decision in regard to them will probably be arrived at in a few days. M. RIVERO, Minister of the Interior, has had a long interview with M. FIGUEROLA on the subject. The latter declared to him that he would retire in the event of the Ministers not approving unconditionally of his plan. The Bank of Spain has undertaken to lend to the Spanish Treasury thirty-two millions of reals to pay the salaries of the public employes in Madrid for the month of November. I know it from the most reliable sources that on this the 1st day of December the Spanish Government has not the least assurance of being able to pay any part of the 524,000,000 which it is bound to liquidate to the holders of Spanish securities on the day they fall due, (the 31st of this month.) The Paris Bank has declared that it could not, seeing the present condition of France, take charge of the securities offered by M. FIGUEROLA, and that according to the terms of its contract it would not take them. The English and Prussian markets had closed to Spain the strings of their purses. There remained no other resource [illegible] that of doing what M. MORET propose[illegible] by thirty-three per cent. the int[illegible] the holders of Spanish securities, or [illegible] the payment of them for two or three years.

DISSATISFIED CONTRACTORS.

The contractors for the public works, to whom more than sixty millions of reals are due, finding their hopes deceived, have come to the resolution of jointly addressing a petition to the Cortes asking it to order their work to be paid, and their guarantees to be returned to them.

THE VOMITO.

The black vomito has disappeared at the Balearic Islands and at Valentia. At Alicante there were only four fresh cases yesterday, and at Barcelona one. In eight days the two ports will be opened to foreign and native commerce.

PRESS PROSECUTIONS.

The Republican journals are being vigorously proceeded against. There is not one of them that has not three or four criminal prosecutions commenced against it. A large number of their editors are incarcerated. What villainous acts are perpetrated under the cloak of liberty by the *soi disant* liberals of the Spanish revolution!

ATTACK ON A THEATRE.

A small theatre of Madrid, where for the last few nights has been played a small piece entitled "Maccaroni the First," a bitter satire against Prince AMADEUS and Gen. PRIM, has been attacked by the band of ruffians who go by the title of *la Porra*. In the middle of the piece when an actor in his part said that he had seven candidates in his *portefeuille*—one of the chiefs of the band, revolver and poniard in hand, leaped upon the stage and fired at the actor, but without wounding him. Other members of the band followed him, and in a moment the curtain and the other decorations of the stage were destroyed by these ruffians.

SPANISH LIBERTY.

In Spain there is much talk about liberty, but it is very badly protected and but ill understood. The clubs are being closed, the opposition Press proceeded against, and all are subjected to the arbitrary dictates of a man who tells us, "*Sic volo, sic jubeo, stat pro ratione voluntas mea.*"

ILLINOIS.

The Successor to Senator Yates—Preparations for the Organization of the New Legislature—The Public Schools of Chicago—Interesting Statistics.

From Our Own Correspondent.

CHICAGO, Friday, Dec. 16, 1870.

It is rather quiet times with us just now, so far as any excitement is concerned. The political question of the most general interest relates to the election of United States Senator to succeed Mr. YATES. There are said now to be four principal aspirants—Gen. LOGAN, Gov. OGLESBY, Attorney-General BUSHNELL, and Hon. R. G. INGERSOLL. Gov. OGLESBY'S friends claim to have the inside track, and count up eighty-four votes for him in both branches. But it is thought by those who have canvassed the subject, that they will not be able to muster more than two-thirds that number in caucus, on the first ballotings. Gen. LOGAN would doubtless be elected by an overwhelming majority were it not for creating a vacancy in the office of Congressman at Large. Gov. PALMER would probably be acceptable to the largest number, and it would be a choice every way creditable to to the State.

THE NEW LEGISLATURE.

The legislative wire-pullers have, some of them, gone to Springfield. The Speakership of the House seems to be, more than usual, a bone of contention among the politicians, and the number of aspirants has increased since my last. But there are no indications as to who is the "coming man." Cook County has two candidates, ROOT and EGAN.

EDUCATIONAL—THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The annual report of our Board of Education has just been printed. It contains the facts and figures representing the operations of our common or public school system during the past year, which comprises parts of 1869-70. Our School Board is composed of one member from each of the twenty wards of the city, and constitutes an independent department of the Municipal Government. The *materiel* composing the Board has greatly deteriorated of late years, and too many who have obtained positions on it have done so for the sake of the possible "jobs" which could be discovered in the administration of the affairs of our schools. With the exception of the President, Hon. JOHN WENTWORTH, and three or four others, they are unfit for the place. We have a capital Superintendent, however, in Hon. J. L. PICKARD, and he makes up to a considerable extent for the moral, mental and educational deficiencies of the Board. There are in the Board seventeen Standing Committees, between which the work is divided. There are 537 teachers of all grades, who gave instruction, last year, to 38,987 children. The bills for teachers' wages amounted to $421,113, including Superintendent's salary, and the total expenditures were $715,347. Six new school-buildings have been erected, with accomodations for 5,714 pupils, and yet many of the schools are still crowded to overflowing. Our teachers are pretty well paid, on a graduated scale. That is, $1,800 the first year, $1,900 the second, and $2,200 thereafter. Female assistants are taken somewhat on trial at the rate of $450 for the first fourteen weeks, $600 for the first year thereafter, $700 for the second year, and $800 afterward. German is taught as an ordinary branch in many of the schools. During the last term of the year there were 2,597 pursuing this branch of study. It is introduced wherever 150 parents of pupils petition for it. It is quite a popular study in the primary, grammar, and high schools. Well it may be, with our 75,000 citizens of Teutonic origin. Evening schools, for the accommodation of those who are compelled to labor through the day, have been a part of our system for several years past. There are eight now in operation, with an attendance of about two thousand, and with double that number on the registers. Music, too, is taught as one of the regular branches of instruction. There are music-teachers who visit the schools regularly, at stated intervals, and the lady teachers, especially, give instruction at other times.

THE FIRST SCHOOL IN CHICAGO.

Our school system has, as a matter of course, grown up from small beginnings. A gentleman, the other day, was relating the history of the first school, which consisted of a young Kinzie boy, eight or nine years old, with a teacher who had reached the mature age of thirteen. Mrs. (Rev.) JEREMIAH PORTER established a private school about thirty-six years ago, which was the first, I believe. And Mr. PORTER preached the first sermon here, or was the first regular preacher, at any rate. He was chaplain of Fort Dearborn. Both are still at work teaching and preaching in Brownsville, Texas. So those who saw the seed planted have been permitted to live and look upon the fruitage.

A Sudden Blast of Winter—The Illinois Central Railway Suits—Miscellaneous.

From Our Own Correspondent.

CHICAGO, Thursday, Dec. 22, 1870.

Our beautiful Autumn has been superseded by "Old Hiems" in his most rigorous aspect. After three months of as splendid weather as ever smiled upon this earth of ours, a sudden change has taken place, and we are now shivering with the thermometer at 10° below zero. There was no lingering in lane, but a single leap from as bright and genial a day as one could ask for, to the "cold of Greenland," with only twenty-four hours of sleet and snow intervening. Even yesterday quite a number of vessels, including two steamers, entered the harbor, with a goodly cargo of ice on deck and attached to the rigging.

THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD.

In some suits brought by shippers of corn against the Illinois Central Railroad for damages caused by a delay in sending it forward, verdicts to the extent of sixty thousand dollars have already been obtained at Bloomington, and we are told that there are a large number more to be brought and decided upon the same state of facts. The business of this road has, to a great extent, been managed in the interests of freight agents and other officers, rather than the stockholders. If shippers declined to patronize elevators or stock-yards in which these men were interested, their freight was delayed—there were no cars for them. One freight agent resigned after ten years' service, with $250,000, which he had made on a salary of three thousand dollars a year, and lived heavily and fast all the time, too. This is more than the stockholders make.

HOLIDAY BUSINESS.

The Holidays are being prepared for on an extensive scale. The streets and the stores are full of shoppers from morning till night, and everybody goes home with a budget or a bundle. We suppose that nowhere else is the practice of present-making more general or on a more liberal scale than in Chicago. It is also a season of concerts, lectures, festivals, and all those other public occasions which belong to the season of comparative leisure. In the general course Senator SUMNER led off, and is to be followed by the lesser celebrities. Skating is below par. It has run its fashionable day, judging from the lack of preparation for its enjoyment. The rinks have proved an unprofitable speculation, and we do not hear anything of them this season.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

The new county and city buildings, now nearly completed, cost a little over $1,300,000—at least $300,000 more than if an individual had built them. The people have to pay about twenty-five per cent. for stealings. Our county debt (bonded) is $2,905,000. As the city pays five-sixths of this, it increases the funded indebtedness of Chicago to over $15,000,000. The constitutional prohibition did not come any too soon.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The ceremony of unvailing a monument erected in St. James' Church to the members of the congregation who fell in the war against the rebellion, took place this evening with appropriate ceremonies. The monument is a beautiful and expensive one....The warm weather delayed pork-packing, and the season is late. The packers are now, however, at work in full force. It is expected that the number packed will exceed that of last year....Money is scarce and the market stringent. There is a heavy demand just now from the packers; but it does not remain long in the country, but returns here to settle the accounts of the country merchants with our wholesale dealers. Easier terms are, therefore, looked for.

HALE'S "MAN-TRAP."

An Intelligent Mason's View of it—Where the Blame Lies and the Remedy Therefor.

The disaster in West Thirty-sixth-street is so recent that it needs not to be recited here, but the views of one of the most intelligent masons and brick-layers in the City may serve to throw some additional light on the cause of that fatal disaster. He, with others, visited the "man-trap" in question, and after taking a general survey of the scene and its materials, the following conversation which ensued between our reporter and himself will explain what he thought about it:

REPORTER—What do you think of this? It is a terrible catastrophe isn't it?

Mr. B.—It is, indeed, but it might have been much worse. Do you see those bricks, how clean they are on every side?

REPORTER—I do. How do you account for it—as if mortar had not been used?

Mr. B.—(Taking up a handful of mortar)—That answers your question. You perceive how brittle it is. There is not the least adhesive power in it, and the bricks might as well have been laid in so much street mud as in such stuff as that. Indeed, mud is much more adhesive than this. Now, any intelligent mason knows that mortar should not be used for building purposes until it is, at least, two weeks old, when its adhesive qualities are thoroughly developed. But here is a case wherein the building was raised two or three stories high before a brick should have been laid.

REPORTER.—But don't you think the walls were too thin to bear such a superincumbent mass, even though the mortar used had been of the very best kind? Would not the building have tumbled down of its own weight some day?

Mr. B.—No; not necessarily. The walls of the lower stories were 2 feet thick, tapering to 16 inches in the middle and 12 inches on the upper stories. Had good mortar been used and "anchors" placed in the walls the building would have sustained any reasonable weight. But without anchors or mortar it was but a question of time when it would have fallen. And I have no doubt that the very first piece of machinery that would have been placed therein, would have sent it going with a crash that would have alarmed the City much more than this one has done.

REPORTER.—Well, whom do you think is to blame most for this disaster?

Mr. B.—I hardly know whom to blame most. The criminal censure should be freely distributed to all persons engaged in it, from the owner, HALE, to the brick-layers who executed the work. The Superintendent of Buildings declares that the plans were drawn according to law, and the building was reared in harmony with the plans, so that he had no power in the matter further than to approve the plans presented to him, and to see that their specifications were carried out. This he contends he did by his inspectors, who visited the man-trap day after day. If so, then very much of the censure attaches to the inspector or inspectors who had the oversight of its erection, and had they been practical masons it is almost safe to say that such a building could not be reared with such materials, unless the inspectors had been bribed. If, therefore, the inspectors are not practical masons, but are appointed by the Superintendent from political motives rather than personal qualifications for office, then I contend that the Superintendent is to blame also. The mechanics are morally criminal, though, of course, had they refused to work on such a structure, others would have been found to take their places. But, as it appears by the testimony, they thought their foreman shirked the responsibility to some extent from their own shoulders, by representing to Mr. HALE that the building could not stand. His reply is not an exceptional answer in such cases, and it shows clearly that human life is yet greatly undervalued in this community, and there is pressing need of stricter laws and more rigorous enforcement of them in this direction. Had HALE been aware that his refusal to strengthen his building after its necessity had been demonstrated, would have given him a term of recreation in Sing Sing, he would not have made such a reply, nor have hurried forward the work as he did. But the whole thing is radically defective. The Superintendent of Buildings should be a practical mason, and every man under him should be experienced mechanics engaged in one or other branches of the building trade, and if they can be found proof against bribery, I'll defy you to record such an event as this once in a generation. There are hundreds of buildings in this City that are very little better than this, and many of them stand on Broadway. You remember a short time ago when the Lafayette-place walls of WOODS BROTHERS' carriage building on Broadway, near Astor-place, fell of their own weight and worthlessness. And there is another new structure nearly finished on Broadway, opposite the City Hall, that will fall whenever the house adjoining shall be stirred, just as certainly as a stone thrown into the air will descend to the earth again. And had I time to go around town with you, I could give you examples enough to fill a page of the TIMES.

POLITICAL.

TAMMANY JOBS.

Legislators from the Interior Inquiring into City Jobs—Insolence of the Tammany Ring.

The advent in our City of several well-known members of the Legislature, from the interior, who have been noticed perambulating our thoroughfares and inspecting our streets, especially the so-called improvements in the Parks, including the Chatham-street style of fountains, the "poultice" pavements, the "pudding" mosaic style of sidewalk—the latest fashion affected by our Ring rulers—has induced some speculation, as these gentlemen from the interior have failed to seek advice from their City co-legislators. That the deductions of our City representatives, or their "bosses," the heads of the departments, are not of a pleasant character, so far as they are concerned, is illustrated in the remark made by one of them, "Well we won't ask those d—d countrymen for a cent this Winter, anyhow." "How is that?" said a bystander. "Why, ye see," replied the City father, "there is no Tax Levy this year, and we shall not ask the Legislature for a cent." Since election, this harrowing fact has made itself perceptible to the faculties of many honest (?) gentlemen who scented fat things this Winter; but unless railroad legislation is asked for by Erie, or some kindred institution, the perquisites of members of the Legislature will be small indeed. The estimates now in course of preparation show a wonderful change of base in the minds of some of the "Ring;" for, said one of them, "We can't go on much longer in our present path; the people are grumbling about the $25,000,000 a year taxes, and we must either cut down our estimates for 1871 below 1870, or we shall go under in the next election." In the one item of advertising, the last Tax Levy allotted $45,000, and the outlay is over $600,000, divided among about thirty newspapers, while the law expressly provides the $45,000 shall be distributed among six dailies and seven weeklies. But $100,000 will be the amount of the bone allowed for the Press to pick in 1871, and the mortuary statistics of newspapers will, per consequence, be quite heavy.

We came across a little job the other day illustrative of the system of robbery now in vogue. For "completely restoring and indexing the records of the Surrogate's office," the sum of $45,000 was passed in the Tax Levy, and two clerks completed the job in three months, for which the money was paid. Again, in this same office $12,000 was allowed for "fitting it up," for work that any honest mechanic would perform for $2,000.

POLITICAL NOTES.

Gen. NEAL DOW is to write a history of the "Maine Liquor law" movement for the Portland *Press*.

The Vicksburg *Herald*, otherwise a Democratic paper of the strictest sort, calls for a stringent Prohibitory Liquor law in Mississippi.

There is not a single member in the National House of Representatives who was serving when Gen. SCHENCK first took his seat in 1843.

The Boston *Traveller* thinks Senator SUMNER'S attack on the President will injure no one but himself.

The Female Suffrage bill was defeated, last week in the Dakota Territorial Legislature by a vote of sixteen to seven.

The Springfield (Ill.) *Journal* compliments Congressman DAWES for the plucky nerve with which he denounces an abuse of what is termed "personal privileges."

Major B. W. NORRIS, Republican, will contest the seat of Hon. W. A. HANDLEY, Democrat, in the next Congress as Representative from the Third District of Alabama.

The Minnesota Legislature will meet Jan. 3, the Illinois Legislature Jan. 4, the Wisconsin Legislature Jan. 11, the West Virginia Legislature Jan. 17.

The "independent" Democrats in Delaware are to start a newspaper at Dover, to oppose the Democratic Ring, which now has complete control of the State.

The Republicans of the Second District of New-Hampshire have nominated, for the State Senate, the gentleman supported by the Labor Reformers last year.

The Ohio Legislature will meet on the 3d of January, and the Columbus *State Journal* thinks it would do well to repeal the useless Usury laws, and in other respects let things alone.

The impeachment of Gov. HOLDEN is not approved by all the Democratic papers in North Carolina. Some of them say it is ill-timed and impolitic, and that the end to be gained is not worth the expense.

Hon. JOHN KENDRICK, of Waterbury, Hon. C. C. HUBBARD, of Middletown, and CHARLES R. INGERSOLL, Esq., of New-Haven, are candidates for the Democratic nomination for Congress in the Second District of Connecticut.

The appointment of Ex-Mayor E. M. SMITH as Postmaster of Rochester is hailed with pleasure by all parties. The *Union*, the Democratic paper, pronounces it a good one, which will give universal satisfaction.

The names of the two Senators from Ohio, SHERMAN and THURMAN, are so nearly alike that the telegrams sometimes give one for the other, and thus make them responsible for the utterance of political opinions of the most startling character.

JOHN F. BENJAMIN is a candidate for the Senate in Missouri, and the St. Louis *Democrat* thinks the State might do a great many worse things than to elect him, although at the same time it believes Judge WAGNER a stronger candidate.

Two young lawyers in Montgomery, Ala., threaten to fight a duel about a young lady, and it remains to be seen what effect will be produced by the information given them by one of the local papers that "these duels" disqualify a man from holding office in Alabama.

Because he believes in accepting the situation, Hon. BEN. H. HILL is told by a Georgia paper that "he is going to sea in an old rotten hulk, without chart, compass, or rudder, with a drunken pilot and a mutinous crew." Other persons have thought all the world drunk before this Georgia writer's experience.

Hon. WILLIAM C. BENTLEY, Democrat, of Otsego County, writes that he will not contest for a seat in the Assembly, because he has "no desire to obtain it "unless elected by a clear majority of the electors" of his district. What says Mr. JOHN CAREY of the Seventh District of New-York?

Three-fourths of the Republicans of Minnesota favor the election of Hon. WM. WINDOM for the unexpired portion of the late Mr. NORTON'S term in the United State's Senate, and also for the next term, if the St. Paul *Press* is not mistaken in its opinions on the subject. Mr. WINDOM is now serving under appointment by the Governor.

Congressman D. PATRICK DYER, of Missouri, has written home a letter expressing his earnest hope that the Republicans of that State will bury the animosities engendered by the late political campaign, the objects to be attained through the division having been accomplished, and there being need of union in the future to secure peace and prosperity.

And now some of the colored men have been congratulating B. GRATZ BROWN, at the same time asking very blunt questions. To them he replies that the late election showed that nine-tenths of the population of Missouri favor equal participation of all men in civil rights, regardless of color, or race, or past political disabilities, and, moreover, that he is very sure nobody would wish to disturb that verdict, now or hereafter.

Hon. TOD R. CALDWELL, who acts as Governor of North Carolina in place of Gov. HOLDEN, is a native of that State, about fifty years old, and a lawyer by profession. He used to be a Henry Clay Whig, and was a sterling Union man throughout the war. He was elected Lieutenant-Governor by the Republicans, after serving several terms in the Legislature, and is popular with all parties.

The Utica *Herald* notes that the few whispers from Democrats in the interior, proposing that they should have something to say about the organization of the Assembly, have already died away, through the potent influence of Tammany, and it calls upon the Republican members to expose wrong doing fearlessly, and, to keep clear from TWEED'S programme in all its parts, confidently anticipating that by and by the rural Democracy, who are already alarmed at the boldness of the outrages perpetrated by the Tammany chiefs, will tumble the present self-constituted tyrants in this Metropolis, into the disgrace and utter contempt which they so richly merit.

The Newburg *Journal* reports that so well convinced were Hon. HENRY S. RANDALL'S country friends that the Democratic rulers would permit him to be elected Speaker of the Assembly that they persuaded him to undertake a journey to Albany to see about the matter; but, although he was received and entertained with the utmost politeness, he received little encouragement to go on in the way marked out for him, and returned home a sadly disappointed man. The *Journal*, however, says that this result shows merely that honest men must go to the rear, and that Mr. RANDALL was not the man for TWEED & Co., as he could not be relied upon to further their villainous schemes.

In the most emphatic manner does the Montgomery, Ala., *Advertiser* deny that there is any secession spirit or policy in the South; and it accompanies this denial with the following intimation: "We indulge the hope that the time is fast approaching when the South and the West, with the Middle States, shall assume the Government of the country under the forms of the Constitution, to continue for fifty years to come, and when New-England, if it shall presume to show its Radical head, shall be put to the edge of the sword without the slightest compunction. It is true, there must be no centralization or empire, but a republic and liberty; but the day has passed when the South has any necessity for the doctrine of peaceable secession, and we shall hold Radical New-England and after and her Radical allies everywhere to the letter of their bond."

Suit Against the Western Union Telegraph Company.

From the Cincinnati Gazette, Dec. 24.

It is said a suit has been commenced against the Western Union Telegraph Company for the recovery of damages, the claim to which arose from the following singular circumstances. It seems JAMES H. COLE sent a message some five weeks ago to his attorney in Meridian, Miss., asking him to hold DE HAVEN'S circus. At the time the message was received at the telegraph office in that place, the agent of the circus happened to be in, and on hearing that a message had been received, asked if it was concerning the circus, offering at the same time to deliver it. The man in charge of the office inadvertently handed him the dispatch, which found a safe lodgment in the agent's pocket for four or five days. When it was delivered it was too late to serve the purposes of the sender or the message. Mr. COLE now seeks to recover $5,800 damages.

St. Stephen's Day—Services at the Church of the Proto-Martyr.

Yesterday being, according to the church calendar, St. Stephen's Day, there were, as usual, grand religious services at St. Stephen's Catholic Church, in Twenty-eighth-street, near Third-avenue. A very large congregation was present. Solemn high mass was celebrated at 10½ A. M., Rev. Father GRIFFIN acting as celebrant; Rev. Father HENRY as deacon, and Rev. Father DANTNER as subdeacon. After the reading of the first gospel, Rev. Father MCSWEENEY, curate of this church, preached a most instructive sermon on the "Life and Character of the Proto-Martyr, St. Stephen," whose memory and heroic Christian virtue they were assembled to honor. The musical exercises were given by the regular choir of the church, under the direction of Prof. DANFORTH, the organist. A splendid oil-painting of "St. Stephen Being Stoned to Death" has been placed over one of the side altars in this magnificent temple.

LAW REPORTS.

COURT CALENDARS—THIS DAY.

SUPREME COURT—CIRCUIT.

Parts I. and II.—Adjourned for the term.

OYER AND TERMINER.

Held by Cardozo, J.—Will commence at 10½ A. M.

SUPREME COURT—CHAMBERS.

Held by Ingraham, P. J.—Court opens at 10 A. M., Calendar called at 12 M.

Nos.		Nos.	
47	Williams vs. Goodwin.	112	Gibson vs. Fox.
77	Everitt vs. Garrison.	113	Holbrook vs. Elakiston.
78	Burrell vs. Raphael.	148	The People, &c., Anderson vs. Smith.
80	Rodgers vs. Mayo.	151	Adler vs. Dunman.
83	In the matter of Richard Winthrop.	152	Andrews vs. The Glenville Woolen Co.
85	Mitchell vs. Reed.	165	In the matter of John C. Rushton.
89	Hoffman vs. Walker.	166	Bank of North America vs. Brekel.
91	Barr vs. The N. Y. and Orange Co. Manuf. and Mining Co.	168	McDaniel vs. Smith, Jr.
97	McDaniel vs. Smith, Jr.		
111	Warth vs. Radde.		

MARINE COURT—TRIAL TERM.

Part I.—Held by Gross J.—Calendar called at 10 A. M.

Nos.		Nos.	
4744	Haring vs. Freeman.	4729	Monks vs. Rosenstein.
5209½	Koehle vs. Seckles.	4732	Hyman vs. Cohen.
4464	Isaacs vs. McAndrew.	4733	Schauss vs. Cropsey.
5172	Kehoe vs. Lynn.	4735	Hamil vs. Heylin.
4597	Hall vs. Wise.	—	Heitner vs. Rosenberg.
5218½	Tasker vs. Sutherland.	4737	Finney vs. Hunt.
4668	Rosenblatt vs. Singleton.	4738	Leverson vs. Lumley.
4728	Randall vs. Brewster.	4740	Aubke vs. Ambler.
		4741	Cook vs. Clark.

Part II.—Adjourned for the term.

MARINE COURT—GENERAL TERM.

Will commence on Thursday, the 29th inst.

SUPREME COURT.

ASSIGNMENTS OF COURTS AND JUDGES FOR THE YEAR 1871, MADE PURSUANT TO THE ACT PASSED 1870.

GENERAL TERMS.—First Tuesday of January, February, April, June, September and November.

SPECIAL TERMS—FOR ENUMERATED MOTIONS.

February, Judge Ingraham.
March, Judge Brady.
May, Judge Sutherland.
October, Judge Cardozo.
December, Judge Barnard.

CHAMBERS.

January, Judge Sutherland.
February, Judge Barnard.
March, Judge Cardozo.
April, Judge Brady.
May, Judge Ingraham.
June, Judge Barnard.
July, Judge Cardozo.
August, Judge Sutherland.
September, Judge Barnard.
October, Judge Ingraham.
November, Judge Brady.
December, Judge Cardozo.

The Judge at Chambers will hold the same to and including the Saturday preceding the first Monday of the succeeding month.

CIRCUIT COURTS, AND OYER AND TERMINER.

January—Part I.—Judge Brady.
January—Part II.—Judge ——.
February—Part II. and Oyer and Terminer—Judge Sutherland.
February—Part II.—Judge Brady.
March—Part I.—Judge ——.
March—Part II.—Judge Sutherland.
April—Part I.—Judge ——.
April—Part II.—Judge Sutherland.
May—Part I. and Oyer and Terminer—Judge Cardozo.
May—Part II.—Judge Brady.
June—Part I.—Judge Brady.
June—Part II.—Judge ——.
October—Part I. and Oyer and Terminer—Judge Barnard.
October—Part II.—Judge Brady.
November—Part I.—Judge Sutherland.
November—Part II.—Judge ——.
December—Part I. and Oyer and Terminer—Judge Ingraham.
December—Part II.—Judge Brady.

Where two Circuits are to be held at the same time, the odd numbers will be placed on the calendar of Part I., and the even numbers on the calendar of Part II.

BANKING AND FINANCIAL.

HARVEY FISK. A. S. HATCH.

☞ FISK & HATCH,

BANKERS AND DEALERS IN GOVERNMENT SECURITIES,

NO. 5 NASSAU-ST., Dec. 27, 1870.

The earnings of the Central Pacific Railroad for 1870 will reach nearly **$8,000,000**, of which about **$3,900,000** will be net after paying operating expenses. This is an increase over the previous year, in gross earnings, of $2,000,000, and in net earnings of $1,200,000.

The earnings for the coming year, by a moderate estimate, based upon reliable data, it is believed, will exceed **$10,000,000**.

The annual interest on the Company's First Mortgage Bonds is but $1,717,200.

The security of the principal and the assurance of regular and prompt payment of interest which are afforded in the valuable property, and immense revenue of the road, render these Bonds as safe and reliable an investment as can be made. They are daily quoted on the regular call of the New-York Stock Exchange, and of several of the most important Stock Exchanges of Europe, and can be as readily sold at quoted market price as the bonds of the United States Government.

We deal in them as freely as in Government Bonds, and are prepared to supply them in exchange for Five-twenties, or for new investments at current market price, which today is 92¼. ☞ This includes the coupon due Jan. 1, for which parties purchasing during the present month will realize three per cent in gold. FISK & HATCH.

☞ VERMILYE & CO., Bankers,

Nos. 16 and 18 Nassau-st., New-York,

Offer to investors the following Securities:

LONG ISLAND RAILROAD 1st Mortgage 7 per cent. Bonds.

SOUTHERN CENTRAL RAILROAD (of New-York) 1st Mortgage 7 per cent. Bonds.

KALAMAZOO AND WHITE PIGEON RAILROAD 1st Mortgage 7 per cent. Bonds, *interest guaranteed by Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railroad Company.*

☞ INDIANAPOLIS, BLOOMINGTON AND WESTERN SEVEN PER CENT. GOLD LOAN.

The Bonds are secured by a mortgage over 205 miles of completed railway, from Indianapolis, Ind., west to Pekin, Ill., which has a large equipment and is doing a large and rapidly increasing business. The Road connects with most of the leading lines to the Atlantic and Pacific, making a central trunk route from ocean to ocean over sixty miles shorter than any other route.

The Bonds have nearly all been marketed during construction. The few remaining we offer at 92½ and interest, in currency.

TURNER BROTHERS,
Bankers, No. 14 Nassau-st.

☞ BURLINGTON, CEDAR RAPIDS AND MINNESOTA First Mortgage Sinking Fund Convertible Seven per Cent. Gold Bonds—the small remaining balance of the Loan for sale at 90 and accrued interest.

These Bonds return about double the rate of interest which United States Five-twenties pay, while the security is as safe and fully equal to that of any railroad bond issued. HENRY CLEWS & CO.,
No. 32 Wall-st.

☞ NOTICE.—

The interest due Jan. 1, 1871, on the Bonds of the State of Georgia will be paid on and after that date, upon surrender of the coupons, at the Fourth National Bank, New York.

Bonds of the State of Georgia as they mature, will be paid upon presentation at the Banking-house of HENRY CLEWS & CO., No. 32 Wall-street, New-York. RUFUS B. BULLOCK, Governor.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, STATE OF GEORGIA, ATLANTA, Nov. 19, 1870.

The New-York Times.

NEW-YORK, TUESDAY, DEC. 27, 1870.

Amusements this Evening.

WALLACK'S THEATER.
Broadway, corner 13th-st.
THE HEIR AT LAW. Characters by Mr. Charles Fisher, Mr. J. H. Stoddart, Miss Madeline Henriques and Miss Mestayer.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.
Broadway, near Houston-st.
WEE WILLIE WINKIE. Characters by Messrs. G. L. Fox, Honeywood, Atkins, Miss Fanny Beane, Miss Rogers, Miss Yeamans, and others.

GRAND OPERA-HOUSE.
23d-st., corner of 8th-av.
BARBE BLEUE. Leading characters by Mlle. Aimee and Messrs. Gausins and Hittemanns.

BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC.
Montague-st., near Court.
LA GRANDE DUCHESSE. Leading character by Mlle. Lea Silly.

NIBLO'S GARDEN.
Broadway, near Prince-st.
THE BLACK CROOK. Leading characters by Messrs. Morton, Rogers, Hamilton, and Miss Pauline Markham.

FIFTH-AVENUE THEATRE.
24th-st., near Broadway.
SARATOGA. Leading characters by Messrs. Harkins, Lewis, Davidge, Miss Fanny Davenport and Miss Fanny Morant.

BOOTH'S THEATRE.
6th-av., corner 23d-st.
RIP VAN WINKLE. Leading characters by Messrs. Joseph Jefferson, Sheridan, Anderson and Miss Mary Wells.

LINA EDWIN'S THEATRE.
Broadway, near Waverley-place.
LITTLE JACK SHEPPARD. Leading characters by Miss Ada Harland, Miss Lina Edwin, and Mr. Leffingwell.

WOOD'S MUSEUM.
Broadway, corner 30th-st.
DRAMATIC PERFORMANCE. Afternoon and evening. Large collection of curiosities on exhibition.

NEW-YORK CIRCUS.
14th-st., between 2d and 3d avs.
GRAND EQUESTRIAN and GYMNASTIC PERFORMANCES.
MATINEE at 2½ o'clock.

STEINWAY HALL.
14th-st., near 4th-av.
DRAMATIC READING BY MISS GLYN. "Macbeth."

BROOKLYN TABERNACLE.
Schemerhorn-st., between Powers and Nevins.
LECTURE BY MISS LILLIAN S. EDGARTON.
For the benefit of the Masonic Board of Relief. Subject—"Whither are we Drifting?"

SEVENTY-FIRST REGIMENT ARMORY.
Broadway, junction of 6th-av. and 35th-st.
GRAND FAIR OF THE UNION HOME AND SCHOOL, (orphans of soldiers and sailors.)

Terms of the New-York Times.

MAIL SUBSCRIBERS.

The DAILY TIMES, per annum, including the Sunday Edition.....$12
The DAILY TIMES, per annum, exclusive of the Sunday Edition..... 10
The Sunday Edition, per annum..... 2
The SEMI-WEEKLY, per annum..... 3
Two copies, one year..... 5
Ten copies, one year..... 25
An extra copy to getter-up of club, and a splendid steel engraving of the late HENRY J. RAYMOND.
The WEEKLY TIMES, per annum..... 2
Five copies, one year..... 8
Ten copies, one year..... 15
An extra copy to getter-up of club, and a splendid steel engraving of the late HENRY J. RAYMOND.
Twenty copies, one year..... 25
An extra copy to getter-up of club, and a splendid steel engraving of the late HENRY J. RAYMOND.
The European Edition, per annum, postage extra 3
Subscriptions to either of our editions received for a less length of time than one year at the yearly rate.
The Semi-Weekly and Weekly mailed to clergymen at the lowest club rates.
Additions may be made to clubs at club rates.

These prices are invariable. We have no traveling agents. Remit in drafts on New-York or Post Office Money Orders if possible, and where neither of these can be procured send the money in a *registered* letter.

Address

H. J. RAYMOND & CO.,
TIMES Office, New-York.

Advertising Rates of the New-York Times.

Ordinary classified advertisements, 20 cents per line each insertion.

Business Notices, fifth page, before Marriages and Deaths, 50 cents per line each insertion.

Special Notices, fifth page, after Marriages and Deaths, 30 cents per line each insertion.

Advertisements on eighth page, 30 cents per line each insertion.

City Items with word "advertisement" prefixed 60 cents per line each insertion.

Deaths or Marriage Notices, $1 each insertion.

The above have been the fixed advertising rates of the NEW-YORK TIMES for the past eight years, and will not be changed, although our circulation has largely increased during that time.

To Advertisers.

Advertisers in the TIMES are requested to bring in their notices at as early an hour in the day as possible. If received after 8½ o'clock, it will be impossible to classify them under their proper heads.

☞ For the accommodation of up-town residents, advertisements for insertion in the TIMES will be received at No. 54 West 32d-st., junction of Broadway and 6th-av., and at No. 49 East 18th-st., between Broadway and 4th-av.; also at No. 6 Astor-place, at same rates as are charged at office of publication.

☞ Messrs. DREXEL, HARJES & Co., Bankers, No. 3 Rue Scribe, Paris, are the accredited agents for the NEW-YORK TIMES in that city.

Notice.

We cannot notice anonymous communications. In all cases we require the writer's name and address, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We cannot under any circumstances return rejected communications, nor can we undertake to preserve manuscripts.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

THE WAR.

The battle near Amiens on the 23d is claimed by Gen. FAIDHERBE, in his official report, as a French victory. He says the Prussians attackd him in a good position between Daours and Contay, the fight continuing all day. Villages were taken and retaken, and at 5 P. M. the French success was complete, the enemy being driven before them with the bayonet. During the night the Prussians entered some villages in the valley, but did not renew the attack. Other reports received at Bordeaux say though Gen. FAIDHERBE was successful, the battle was not decisive. The enemy showing no disposition to renew the fight, Gen. FAIDHERBE returned to Albert. The King of Prussia informs the Queen that on the 23d the Germans defeated the French near Amiens, taking 1,000 prisoners, and that the Germans would begin the pursuit on Christmas Day. Telegraphic communication between Bordeaux and the north of France has been established. A fleet of transports is preparing to leave Brest with a considerable force for an unknown destination.

Gen. BOURBAKI sends to the Government of Bordeaux a favorable report of the condition of his army. It is officially stated on French authority that the Germans have withdrawn from Nogent le Rotrou, and that 75,000 of them passed through that town going in the direction of Paris. Another French account of the battle at Nuits agrees with the previous report, except in fixing their strength at 19,000 instead of 10,000. They admit a loss of 1,200, claim to have inflicted a loss of 5,000 on the Germans. Balloon advices from Paris to the 22d are received in London. The inhabitants are still confident.

The French Government is organizing district camps for new levies. The total effective force of the Germans in France, according to a French estimate, is 600,000 men, half of whom are about Paris. The sick list is set down at 100,000, and the losses since entering France, in killed and disabled, are 300,000.

GENERAL EUROPEAN NEWS.

The working parties from the opposite ends of the Mont Cenis Tunnel are within hearing distance of each other. On the afternoon of Christmas Day they exchanged greetings and hurrahs through the dividing wall of rock. Prince AMADEUS, King-elect of Spain, was to have left Florence on Christmas Day, but up to 4 P. M. no announcement of his departure was received in London. The *Pall Mall Gazette* expresses anxiety that it should be known in the United States that England is heartily tired of the *Alabama* controversy, and is ready to pay any impartial money award, if an adjustment is confined to that. The Fenian convicts were discharged from Portland Prison on Friday. The death of a son of Mr. WALTER, of the London *Times*, by drowning, while skating, is announced from London.

GENERAL.

The disaster in Richmond, Va., was witnessed by a special agent of the Treasury Department, stopping at the Spotswood House when the fire broke out, and his account of it is given this morning by telegraph from Washington. The eighth victim of the disaster has been identified as JOHN H. HOLMAN, Jr., of Jackson, Tenn. Several of those reported missing have made their appearance safe, but there are still others for whose safety there is little hope.

A United States steamer, at the Navy-yard in Washington, is now actively getting ready for the expedition to San Domingo, as soon as the Commissioners shall have been appointed, should the Senate resolution pass the House.

A fire broke out in a saloon in Main-street, Poughkeepsie, last night, which destroyed several stores on Main-street and several in Garden-street. The loss could not be ascertained last night.

A destructive fire occurred at Harrisonburg, Va., early yesterday morning. Several business establishments were destroyed, and an aggregate loss incurred of about $100,000.

A dispatch from Atlanta, Ga., says that LAWTON'S majority for Congress in Jasper County is 93, and in Henry County 411. In Cattoosa County YOUNG'S majority is 366. PRICE'S majority in Gwinnett County is 1,106. In Fayette BIGBY'S majority is 48.

The new Georgia Legislature, to assemble on the first Monday in January, will elect another United States Senator to fill the vacancy which will occur on the 3d of March next. This makes eight Senators elected by the various Legislatures of that State, seven of whom are still in the position, nominally, of claimants for admission to a seat.

The New-Zealand colonists are said to be dissatisfied with the delays in the mail service by way of California.

Rev. ALBERT BARNES, D. D., the distinguished theologian, died suddenly, in Philadelphia, at the age of seventy-two years.

The James River is frozen over at Richmond, Va.

Shall Neutrals Export Arms to a Belligerent?

We regret to see that the *Nation*, the leading weekly journal of the country, both in character and ability, should be advocating an important measure in international law which is plainly opposed to the best ideas of the age. Our readers will remember that we noted with approval a few weeks since, the protest of the Prussian authorities against the export of arms and munitions of war by British merchants to French ports. We urged then that this export if not prohibited by international law, ought to be, and that as this code is made up of precedents, and fluctuates in different wars and under the interpretation of different Governments and authorities, a new precedent might now be established, in a rule or custom which would make the export of arms and munitions of war by a neutral to a belligerent a violation of international right. Many living publicists, who are studying carefully the new aspects of international law which are developed by the European war, have concurred in this hope; among them President WOOLSEY, of Yale College, and Mr. CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS.

The reasoning which supports this view is simple, and like all the abiding principles of law between nations, rests on principles of common sense and justice. It is plainly the duty of a neutral Power not to protract or intensify a war in which she is not a party, and from which she only indirectly suffers. Were the privilege unlimited which should enable her to arm and supply material to one belligerent, it is manifest that the other would be placed at great disadvantage, and a struggle might be protracted indefinitely between two Powers, to the great damage of the world. Even a limitation of this privilege, which enables a neutral to supply arms at the risk of the individual, though not so objectionable, still carries with it the possibility of a neutral Power protracting a war which is against the general interest of mankind.

On the other hand, the neutral may demand that her independence should not be impaired, and that all reasonable commerce should continue. For this reason a belligerent cannot object to a sale of contraband goods on neutral soil, or to an export of articles of doubtful contraband. But the sending forth on the sea—which is public ground—for a belligerent's port, articles so plainly contraband as arms and munitions of war, is a different matter, and might very reasonably be forbidden by universal law, and made punishable by each neutral Government; as would be the fitting out of armed expeditions.

The *Nation* opposes this most humane and reasonable improvement, urged in many quarters, on the ground that such a rule would "make the condition of neutrals far worse than ever before," and would impose the penalty of war on whole peoples. But it is no great hardship to a neutral to be forbidden a few articles of export which are aiding to protract a war—especially as in the modern relations of peoples, the neutral often loses from the lengthening of a war, almost as much as the belligerent. Nor need "war be the penalty." A belligerent would not naturally wish to add to the number of its adversaries, and the penalty could safely be left to the Courts of the neutral, as it is now in other similar cases. That a journal which has led in urging advanced ideas in legislation, should claim that it is "the duty of all nations and especially of the United States to protest" against the introduction of another civilizing and humane feature in the law of nations, is certainly a remarkable phenomenon. And, above all, that the writer, after carefully excluding the rule that "the intercourse of States should be governed by the same maxims of right and justice as those which regulate the affairs of individual men," should reach the climax of his argument with the pious conclusion that the right to sell arms to a belligerent rests on "the higher sanction of Christian morality," is a sequence of which few of his readers will see the logic or the wisdom.

The writer in the *Nation* also assumes a far more general consent of publicists in his views than facts would justify. It is true that American decisions, and custom, and British rules have always permitted commerce in arms at the risk of the individual. But Continental writers and precedents have been by no means unanimous on this matter. HAUTEFEUILLE, who is the leading advocate of the neutral side, takes the strongest ground against it, both on grounds of right and law. "The duty," he says, "is absolute" to refrain from the export of arms. "La restriction qu'il impose s'étend a toutes les manières de fournir a l'un des combattans, l'arme dont il veut grapper son ennemè," (vol. 2, 426.) "It is a duty to humanity," he adds; "it is no less inhuman to sell homicidal instruments in the port of Leghorn than to transport them to London or Marseilles."

Space forbids the quotation of other authorities to the same purport; but it will be found that the authorities on the other side are not so strong and definite as has been supposed.

But the point we make in opposition to the *Nation* is that this reasonable restriction demanded by the Prussians, if not international law, ought to be; and that the close of this war ought to bring it about as one of the new victories of humanity—"the sanctions of Christian morality" to the contrary notwithstanding.

The Fire at Richmond.

Christmas Eve was over in Richmond, and the city lay peacefully under a thin covering of frozen snow. The cold, for that southern region, was intense, and most of those who were awake during the early hours of Christmas morning, doubtless thought of the cold and the darkness as the worst foes of human comfort, and would have said that the light and the heat were, at that moment, of all things the most to be desired. In the Spottswood House, the guests were tranquilly sleeping, save a few passengers for the Southern train, who, probably, looked forward somewhat ruefully to passing into outer air with the thermometer only 5° above zero. Ten minutes later, and the temperature outside was the thing least thought of by all the startled inmates of the great hotel. Inside the beneficent heat had given place to the demon fire, and men all pale and breathless made frantic endeavors to clutch some of their property out of the jaws of the destroyer, while shrieking, half-clad women rushed out barefooted to the shelter of the friendly cold and darkness. It seemed as if the fire king had arisen to dispute the empire of the frost, and to show that his sceptre was still the more powerful. And the frost, too, had chained up the only element that could dispute the progress of the destroying flame, and for some fatal minutes the fire-engines stood idly awaiting the thawing of the water. Everything seemed to be against the doomed building, for even the firemen's ladders, that, in that terrible emergency, should have saved the human beings who were rushing madly into the encircling arms of the flame, were found to be too short, as if no one had ever dreamed that so tall an edifice could ever become the prey of fire.

The wild and unreasoning panic of the inmates, as the alarm sped along the corridors, was such as has too many counterparts in the past, and will have many more in the future. As one crowded behind another, in the feverish struggle to reach the door, the door itself was prevented from being opened by the press of the shouting and straining crowd behind it. The fire was at their backs and the nearest avenue of escape was before, and so the blind, animal instinct that teaches every sentient thing to fly from the one, proved more powerful than the calm reason that should have prevented the temporary closing up of the other. At the windows women appeared gasping for air, and wildly gesticulating for the help that did not come. One man was mercifully smitten with idiocy before meeting the doom that awaited him. Anxiety to save personal property lost probably more than one life—eagerness to secure the safety of children nearly cost another. A man in the fourth story descended like a squirrel from cornice to cornice, and never allowed his nerve to fail, or his blistered and bleeding hands to slip, till he had touched the ground. What scenes passed within, which the seething mass of smoke and flame concealed forever from sight, we need hardly attempt to conjecture. The fact, more eloquent than all description, is that nearly a dozen human beings have perished in the swift and terrible conflagration that so disastrously ushered in the gladsome Christmas morning to Richmond.

The Italian Capital.

There is a sort of glamour inseparable from the popular idea respecting Rome, which, at first blush, seems to justify the selection of that city as the future seat of Government for the Kingdom of Italy. The very name calls up a train of recollections and associations to every mind, such as cluster around and cling to no other city in the world. The scholar, the artist, the antiquarian, the traveler, the enthusiast, each and all alike has a place in his memory which is, so to speak, a shrine, whereat he almost worships some cherished relic of classic or Christian Rome. And, in their choice of a capital, it was natural that the eyes of the King and people of Italy should turn toward the seven-hilled city, with a fondness no less marked than that which fills the breast of the cosmopolite. But Rome itself has drawbacks which must detract from its attractiveness as a central seat of governing power.

In the first place, Rome is notoriously insalubrious as a place of residence. Such has been the reputation of the city for centuries, and no lapse of time appears to have wrought any perceptible change for the better. From the days of HORACE, CICERO and LIVY—in whose writings may be found allusions to its unhealthiness—down to the visits of the most recent traveler, Rome has been uniformly portrayed as a place dangerous alike to native and foreigner, to resident and visitor. The malaria would inevitably prove a disagreeable, if not a dangerous, drawback to all comfort and all enjoyment, in a capital whose political attractions must necessarily soon crowd its streets and houses with persons for the most part strangers to the climate, and thus the more exposed to that terrible fever which even the oldest resident is continually obliged to guard against. It is the custom to say that, were the surrounding country put under cultivation, the malaria would disappear. This is by no means certain, even if the experiment were tried; and that any systematic, thorough trial is likely to be made, nothing in the history of the country or in the character of the population gives us much assurance. At all events, it may be deemed probable that too many other subjects and enterprises will occupy the King and his courtiers for some time to come, to allow of much attention being paid to the vital questions of health and life.

The long-continued occupancy and control of Rome by a hybrid Power, in which the religious and the secular were in no sense symmetrically combined, has contributed to fasten upon the citizenship a general condition of demoralization which cannot augur well for the engraftment thereupon of a royal court and the unbridled secularities, (not to say corruption,) belonging to it. Two or three generations must pass away before the old traditions and long-settled conventionalisms of the "Holy City" can be expected to fade sufficiently for the establishment there of a homogeneous and harmonious capital. The questions of defense, commerce, convenience of access, incitement to enterprise and progress, and local sentiment also, naturally have a part in determining the wise selection of a permanent seat of Government; and, as answered by the choice of Rome, the response cannot seem wholly satisfactory to thoughtful men.

The Holy Land.

Among the many things done by Miss BURDETT COUTTS, for which her name will be held in lasting gratitude, her contribution for bringing water into Jerusalem will not be the least esteemed. The indirect rather than the direct consequences of this gift have proved the more important. Miss COUTTS' primary donation was placed in the hands of a committee of gentlemen interested in Jerusalem, and was meant to defray the cost of surveys or preliminary examinations. These were to have been preparatory to costly and substantial water-works. This scheme has been defeated by the Turkish authorities. Jerusalem, therefore, must go for the present without water; or rather must continue to depend on such noisome sources of supply as her open cisterns, which often throw off miasma, the largest of which is known as the Pool of Hezekiah.

Miss COUTTS' benevolent purpose has led to noble results, although not precisely the ones she intended. It furnished the original stimulus to what is called the Palestine Exploration Fund, and has led to the publication of a book interesting to all the Christian inhabitants of the world. This work, in which several officers of engineers have had a hand, and to which the introduction has been written by Dr. STANLEY, the Dean of Westminster, has just appeared in London, and is exciting much attention. It contains the report of Capts. WILSON and WARREN, R. E., concerning the water supply; accounts of expeditions to the Hauran, by Count DE VOGUE, and to Mount Sinai, by Rev. F. W. HOLLAND; a paper on the general survey of Palestine, by Lieut. ANDERSON; an account of the famous Moabite stone; descriptions of various architectural remains in the Holy Land, by Mr. SPIERS; and, what must be deeply attractive, a contribution by Rev. G. J. CHESTER, on the pottery and glass found in late excavations.

The "Ordnance Survey of Jerusalem" was made in 1864-5, and the report of this accompanies the new book, as does also Capt. WATSON'S account of "Excavations at Jerusalem." It has been confirmed, it seems, through these excavations that the "fountain of living waters," supposed by TACITUS to have been situated within the limestone on which the city is built, could never have existed. The water supply contained in the cisterns of the Temple Mount was in fact chiefly brought from Solomon's Pool. In our day, during the dry season, the precious fluid is so scarce in Jerusalem that a half-filled goat-skin costs about fourteen cents. The Temple Mount cisterns held about ten millions of gallons, and it was in searching for and examining their locality that much which is most instructive and interesting in the publication referred to, was obtained. On the south-east side of the Mount, near "Robinson's Arch," at a depth below the surface of the soil of ninety feet, the Phœnician masons' trade-marks have been found on the stones, together with other important relics; and the surprising probability is forced upon us that under-ground Jerusalem is destined, like Pompeii, to furnish data of vital significance as affirming or correcting existing records.

Rev. Mr. HOLLAND, one of the authors named above, has been five times to the peninsula of Sinai, and has taken extraordinary pains to verify and elucidate the Biblical narrative of the wanderings of the children of Israel. His associates, too, have had wide experience in like researches, and the work of all has received the examination and approval of Dr. STANLEY. It will be grateful to many, and especially so at this particular season, to hear that, speaking for his companions as well as himself, Mr. HOLLAND winds up his contribution with the following momentous conclusion:

"Not a single member of the expedition returned home without feeling more firmly convinced than ever of the truth of that sacred history which he found illustrated and confirmed by the natural features of the desert. The mountains and valleys, the very rocks, barren and sun-scorched as they now are, seem to furnish evidences which none who behold them can gainsay, that this was that 'great and terrible wilderness' through which Moses, under God's direction, took His people."

A New Chapter in Greek Politics.

The telegraph reports a fact which probably indicates a slight modification in the policy of England in the Levant. The change of Ministry at Athens is one which brings to the direction of affairs in Greece the ablest, most patriotic, and most popular of the party chiefs, Mr. COMOUNDOUROS, the head of the national or constitutional party, whose policy is the English alliance, and consequent separation from Russia, in all Eastern questions. If, as we surmise, this change has been brought about by a more active moral influence being exerted by the English Government in favor of its friends in Greece, the new Administration will have elements of stability which no other has had for the past three years.

Mr. COMOUNDOUROS came into power as President of the Council in the second year of the Cretan insurrection, when it was found that the Bulgaris Ministry was incapable of directing the movement. Under his direction, the whole resources of Greece were directed to the support of the Cretans, and so effectually that the insurrection was revived and strengthened, and became substantially a national movement, but so dexterously that no chance for intervention by the Powers or retaliation by Turkey was afforded. He had opposed an insurrection during the agitation which preceded it, but, once embarked, he considered the Cretans entitled to the support of all Hellenes, and was ready to risk even war with Turkey rather than that they should fail. During his administration, not only was the insurrection strengthened, but brigandage was so far subdued, and the country so well administered, that disorders became rarer than they had ever been since the year previous to the dethronement of OTHO. The Ministry over which he presided was dismissed by the King in obedience to orders from St. Petersburg, COMOUNDOUROS resolutely refusing to co-operate with the Sclavonic movements in Turkey. He adhered to the national programme of independent Hellenic organization, and the maintenance of Greek schools in the provinces of mixed population, with if possible a pacific propaganda in Turkey, and ultimate treaties; while Russia insisted on a common agitation as against Turkey, and maintained Sclavonic schools in the provinces.

The Chamber refusing to acquiesce in the dismissal of the Ministry, COMOUNDOUROS was offered by the Russian Minister his support if he would accede to the terms of St. Petersburg. He refused, and the Chamber was dissolved and new elections called, in which, by the most extraordinary measures of force, fraud, and bribery, a majority of six was secured to a Russian Ministry, and Mr. COMOUNDOUROS being prevented by military force from placing ballot-boxes to receive votes for him, he was excluded from the Chamber, and a warrant issued for his arrest on some trumped-up pretext. The Premier of one Administration became, under the next, a refugee from prison. These measures made so wide a breach between the Throne and the Constitutional Party, and increased the unpopularity of the King so greatly, that he made overtures to the army for a *coup d'etat* to abolish the Constitution, which met with a most discouraging reception, and increased the strength of COMOUNDOUROS. In the perilous days which succeeded the resignation of the Russian or Bulgaris Ministry, the King dared not call COMOUNDOUROS to power, though every other chief in turn refused to accept, and finally succeeded in getting a Ministry only on condition of the dissolution of the Chamber, and the cessation of all opposition to the return of COMOUNDOUROS. This crisis nearly cost the King his throne; it was to the forbearance of the chiefs of the National party, unwilling to add to the confusion which reigned by a revolution, that his continued possession of it is due. The Zaïmes Ministry, which succeeded to BULGARIS, restored tranquillity, and signed the protocol which definitely abandoned the Cretan insurrection and accepted the intervention of the Powers; but it was a Ministry of compromise, without capacity and without a programme.

As the administrative changes in Greece are almost always due to foreign diplomatic interference, it is safe to suppose that England has at last discovered that her true course is to support her friends, and to direct, rather than crush, the Hellenic activity. As the new Premier has been the advocate of a Turkish alliance and co-operative system in the suppression of brigandage on the frontiers, as well as the uncompromising enemy of Russia, it is possible that Greece will enter into the Eastern question much as Sardinia entered into it during the Crimean War.

The Recent Eclipse.

Only the merest outline reaches us concerning the observation in Europe of the eclipse on the 22d. Reports should come in, by and by, from five different parties. The United States expedition, under Prof. PIERCE, has announced that the weather at Syracuse, Sicily, to which point it had repaired, was unfortunately not favorable; but that the results obtained last year in America were confirmed. Such is the statement of the telegraph, but it is not clear what is meant to be conveyed. The nature of the sun's corona was not determined last year, either in America or elsewhere, and this it was which the present observations were, as was hoped, to resolve. From Cadiz we hear that good photographs of the corona were obtained. The expedition to Cadiz was under the charge of Rev. S. J. PERRY, and we infer from the cable dispatch that the weather at that place was fine. It is probable, likewise, from this, that the Gibraltar party, under Capt. NOBLE, enjoyed the same advantage. We have yet to get tidings from this party, as also from that in charge of Mr. HUGGINS, which was stationed at Oran.

The main expedition, representing both the United States and Great Britain, and consisting of the combined parties of Prof. PIERCE and Mr. LOCKYER, is that from which most has been expected, and the unfavorable report from it is, therefore, greatly to be regretted. Still, although its observations are described as imperfect, it is by no means certain that they are without value; and there remain three other parties, one of which we know had clear weather, a second was likely from its proximity to the first to be similarly fortunate, while the third may prove to have been no less so. It is not certain, therefore, that the scientific world will be forced to dispense with the new facts touching the corona which, it was thought, the observations of this eclipse would disclose.

MINOR TOPICS.

It is tolerably evident that the battle of the 23d, near Amiens, could not have been a victory both for French and Prussians, and as Gens. MANTEUFFEL and FAIDHERBE both claim the honors of the day, it is safe to come to the cautious conclusion of one of the telegrams, that the result was "indecisive." One thing is tolerably obvious, the French Army of the North is getting gradually hammered into shape and efficiency. Like that of the Loire, it has not been discouraged by reverses, but has profited by them sufficiently to estimate the enemy's resources at their proper standard, and to have no disposition to panic on being attacked. The French success in the East, represented by the recapture of Nuits, is another evidence that the military ardor of the nation is rising superior to disaster. Time and men being given, progress like this might yet save France, but it is to be feared that long before the proper amount of either can be had France will be past saving.

An intelligent builder, whose ideas are elsewhere reported, probably comes very near the truth in his exposition of the causes that led to the downfall of HALE'S huge building in West Thirty-sixth-street. He declares that the mortar used in the structure was worth no more than so much street dirt, and that with such stuff to hold the bricks together, a crash was only a question of time. Another radical defect was the absence of "anchors" from the walls. With bad mortar, and with the support to be derived from "anchors" discarded, what can be thought of the daily examination which is alleged to have been made by the subordinates of the Superintendent of Buildings? We must conclude, as our informant suggests, that the Inspectors did not examine the work, or that if they did they either were incompetent to decide as to its quality, or they winked at the running up of the man-trap for a "consideration." It is pretty clear that the office of the Superintendent needs a thorough overhauling, and that meanwhile no reliance can be placed upon the official inspection of work in progress. Unsafe buildings are to be found in almost all parts of the City, and more than one is now in progress. There will be no security in this respect until practical men are employed as Inspectors, aided by a law more satisfactory than that now in operation; and until the owners of man-traps and the builders thereof are made acquainted with the penalty of manslaughter when anything like the Thirty-sixth-street calamity occurs. Property-owners and builders must be taught that they cannot jeopardize human life with impunity.

Bank drafts are good things, and Post-office money orders are not bad things; but neither provide for conceivable exigencies in money matters. They involve time, and *that*, to a man in a financial strait, is not always convenient. A system of telegraphic money orders, adopted by the Western Union Telegraph Company on the Pacific coast, meets an obvious want. A man has but to step into a telegraph office to insure the speedy payment of money at a distant point, or to obtain from some distant correspondent the supplies needed by himself. The Company limits its transactions to small amounts, but the facilities it affords are invaluable, while involving no material interference with the business of ordinary financial institutions. The charges cover a small premium in addition to the cost of the message; and if the experiment be successful, we presume that the system will be introduced into other parts of the country.

Cuba, like the mother country, shows no disposition to calm down under a change of dynasty. The new Captain-General evidently shares the fault of his predecessors in protesting overmuch. For the third time the insurrection is to be stamped out—but the insurgents die very hard. Like all European colonies in this hemisphere, the true and irrepressible difficulty in Cuba will be found to be the maintenance of monarchical traditions amid an atmosphere permeated with republicanism. After making the sacrifice of prestige involved in placing a foreigner upon the throne of FERDINAND and ISABELLA, Spain should find little difficulty in parting with the last of her colonial possessions as soon as she can induce this country to take it off her hands.

Why cannot we have skating without having at the same time a "carnival?" Why must our recreations be obtainable only under circumstances which divest them of much of their health-giving character? Base-ball has been so marred by matches and by trading players that it has become one of the summer nuisances. Billiards are made an excuse for endless betting; and chess "tournaments" too often drag a noble game into a good deal of mire. Similar influences are at work to mar the wholesomeness of skating. It affords excellent exercise, but if it is to be turned to good account, it should be preserved from the contaminating influences which are inseparable from crowded and promiscuous displays. These bright and crisp days afford fine opportunities for its enjoyment in circumstances as pure as they are exhilarating and healthful. To exchange the genuine pleasures that are thus made available for the demoralizing excitement of a "carnival," is to throw away all the good which skating supplies.

Our Democratic rulers in this State will doubtless exercise their ingenuity in endeavoring to devise some means of concealing from the tax-payers the results of the canal management since it passed out of Republican hands. So long as the Canal Board was Republican the canals yielded a revenue which, beside defraying current expenses, provided for accruing interest on outstanding bonds, and usually for an addition to the sinking fund for their redemption. The Democrats, however, have cut down the tolls in defiance of law, and squandered money on repairs. The consequence will almost certainly be a deficiency instead of a surplus, and an increase of indebtedness in some shape, instead of a reduction of the principal as it now stands. The Controller's report may not tell the whole story this year, but time will bring it all out, and the State will then see what Democratic mismanagement in this particular, costs. The Albany *Evening Journal* states that half a million of dollars has already been borrowed, without authority of law, to make up deficiencies—and the end is not yet reached.

We do not impugn the motives of the Canadian patriots who, being themselves in the enjoyment of the light and liberty of this country, are anxious to promote the annexation of their native provinces. Nor have we the slightest doubt as to the course most expedient for the Provinces, whether considered in reference to the perils incident to British connection or the benefit to their material interests that would result from identification with the United States. It is because we are desirous of promoting annexation that we deprecate buncombe speeches on the subject, and the nonsensical displays every now and then perpetrated by a French Canadian Society existing in this City. There are two ways of bringing about annexation. The first is war. In the event of hostilities with England, Canada would be overrun, taken possession of, and absorbed without much difficulty. The other and the preferable method is the gradual, silent and unostentatious inculcation of the lesson which contrasts the more rapid growth and the greater prosperity of this country with the listlessness and depression of the Provinces, and which thus develops among their population a conviction favorable to annexation. Its worst enemies are demagogues, who insist on hurrying it forward by speeches and letters, and blunderers, like Ex-Consul-Gen. POTTER, who imagined that the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty would work like a charm.

There was a sufficient variety of temperature on Christmas Day, in this country, to suit all imaginable tastes. East of the Alleghanies the cold was pretty uniformly intense, at Lexington, in the Valley of Virginia, the telegraph reporting the thermometer to have indicated twenty-four degrees below the freezing point. At San Francisco, in about the same latitude, the mercury was above fifty degrees; the telegraph tells us the weather was "beautiful," and that "almost the entire population is on the streets this evening." Truly, in climate, as in soil and products, this country enjoys almost the widest conceivable range, and its people have practically all the world before them where to choose without crossing the national borders.

All indications combine to show that the young man who is about to leave Florence, in order to occupy the throne of Spain, has a very uneasy seat awaiting him. After all the wire-pulling by the triumvirate of Dictators which has brought about the acceptance of the Duke of AOSTA by the Cortes, there remains the more difficult problem of getting the people to acquiesce cordially in his accession. At present it is clear that Spain, instead of being divided into two parties, as in the struggles that followed the accession of ISABELLA, has now at least five powerful political sections, whose contest for mastery may be more bitter and protracted than any she has yet seen. The heir of Don CARLOS has still his determined adherents in the mountain districts and among the priests; the old Grandees, and the large number of the rural inhabitants who come under their influence, uphold the right of succession of Prince ALFONSO; a considerable proportion of the trading and moneyed classes are ardent friends of MONTPENSIER; while the majority of the artisans and the literary class are earnest and uncompromising republicans. The unfortunate King elect will, it is to be feared, have to find his party among those who are actuated by a lively sense of benefits to come, and may not find them very trustworthy, after all.

The Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans' Fair—Attractive Novelties.

It is gratifying to all those who cultivate charity and devotional patriotism to know that the clouds which seemed to hover over the Fair at the Seventy-first Regiment Armory, in aid of the orphans of the soldiers and sailors who died for the Union, have been steadily vanishing before the overflowing bounty which the festive Christmas season inspires. Notwithstanding the bright auspices which attended its opening, but partial success attended the first week of its existence. The tables, though laden with the most tempting objects, and presided over by the most charming of ladies, had few visitors, but the good ladies, fully satisfied that so worthy an appeal could not be made in vain, persevered, and are now rewarded with a rapidly increasing exchequer. The three large rooms in which the Fair is held present quite as many attractions as during the French Fair, and through the experience of the past, many new features have been introduced. The presence of many of the orphans themselves, and their simple neatness and refined manners, are a sufficient proof of the tender care that has been bestowed upon them, and how worthy their Home is of continued support. Some of the tables are under the entire control of these children. One of them manufactures cider, and the thirsty visitor can both quench his thirst at this fount and learn some valuable information, while the believer in the astrologic and other arts can have the future devolved before him from the lips of a genuine Indian fortune-teller, specially imported from California for this purpose. No more appropriate time for such consolation could be chosen than the dying hours of the old year. The pictures which ornament the different tables would alone repay a visit. "A Market Scene at Rio Janeiro," and "Christ Walking on the Sea," are fine works of art. In addition to these lifeless pictures, a living gallery is also to be seen, the subtle beauties of which could never be impressed upon the canvas, so that all lovers of true art should visit the Fair, where greater triumphs are achieved than in the most illustrious studio. The beauties of this living gallery will also amuse the visitor with a little play entitled "Gossip," with which, gossip says, they are not unacquainted. Toys, candies, cigars, perfumery, bronzes, and in fact fancy articles of all descriptions can be here found in the greatest variety, and at very moderate prices. Last evening Mlle. LUSSAN sang in her usual fine style, and the choir of St. Stephen's Church also delighted the visitors with some splendid airs, while the Fort Hamilton Band played at intervals. During the present week many new attractions will be introduced, and it is hoped that the year will be fitly brought to a close by crowning this noble charity with brilliant success.

Unvailing a Statue of Washington at Trenton, N. J.

The residents of Trenton, N. J., were in a patriotic fervor yesterday, over an event that carried back the minds of all to the period antecedent to the recent war. The statue of the Father of his Country, which formerly occupied a place in the City Hall Park, New-York, was unvailed before a large concourse of spectators. The day was the anniversary of the defeat of the Hessians by Gen. WASHINGTON at Trenton, which victory has not been commemorated since the breaking out of the last war. The statue had been retouched by a skillful artist and presents an improved appearance. It was placed in a niche prepared expressly for it in the new Washington Market, standing upon a sacred historical spot. It was upon this ground that the battle of Dec. 26, 1776, was fought.

At the time announced for the commencement of the ceremonies, the streets in the immediate vicinity were thronged with citizens, thousands in number, among whom the ladies of Trenton were well represented. After the "Star-Spangled Banner" had been played by the band, the figure was unvailed amid the cheers of the assembled thousands. Speeches were afterward made in the Market Hall by Judge REED, Hon. DAVID NAAR, the venerable historian, C. C. HAVEN and others.

A Church Destroyed by Fire.

From the Boston Journal, Dec. 26.

The Orthodox Congregational Church, on the corner of Vine and South Common streets, in Lynn, was totally destroyed by fire last evening. During the day services appropriate to Christmas were held in the church, and in the afternoon the services, which were prolonged to an unusual length, did not terminate till near 5 o'clock. Scarce a half hour afterward, at 5:22 o'clock, fire was discovered issuing from one corner of the edifice, which was of wood. A general alarm was at once given, but the flames spread so rapidly that it was soon evident the building must be consumed. Attention was turned to the carpets and cushions, which, with the other movable articles, were nearly all saved. The fire raged for over an hour, the flames lighting up the sky brilliantly, so that residents of Boston and Charlestown supposed the fire was in Everett or Chelsea. As we have before stated, the church was of wood, and one of the largest and oldest in the city, and the amount of loss which could not be accurately estimated last night, will be very large. The entire Fire Department of the city, with four steam engines, was early on the ground, and did all that could be done to save the property.

Naval News.

The United States dispatch steamer *Tallapoosa*, Lieut. DAVID G. MCRITCHIE, arrived yesterday morning from Charlestown, bringing a draft of eighty men for the frigate *Tennessee*, which is fitting out with all haste to convey the United States Special Commission to San Domingo. Lieut.-Commander HENRY C. NIELDS brought a draft of ninety men, on Saturday, from Philadelphia, for the same ship. All are quartered in the receiving ship *Vermont*. There are men enough on the receiving ship to man the *Tennessee*, and she will go into commission on the 10th of next month, and will soon thereafter sail for her place of destination, if Congress concludes to send out a special commission to inquire into the feeling of the people of that island on the annexation question.

A DAY WITH LUNATICS.

Inside View of the Asylum on Blackwell's Island.

The Place Greatly Overcrowded—Patients Poorly Fed—Pressing Need of Sanitary Reforms—Anecdotes and Oddities of the Unfortunates.

The tourist who saunters down Twenty-sixth-street, east to the river, finds himself confronted by a low building, duly labeled, the door of which seems to open upon the sea. Passing the gray edifice of Bellevue Hospital, and that small brick erection labeled "The Morgue," it is worth his trouble to turn about at the door of the ferry-house and look back. There is something strange, wierd, goblin, in the very atmospheric effect of the *mise en scene*. The hospital itself—gloomy and peculiar, as PHILLIPS said of NAPOLEON—now faces him on the right. There is something damp, dreary, and deadly in the very appearance of the place. If there be anything in Prof. HUXLEY'S theory of minute, morbid, living corpuscles of disease held in atmospheric solution, it is here, certainly, that you experience an oppressive and sickening sense of them. The very air seems dense with morbific agencies of some sort; and every inspiration of it is taken under protest.

Passing the old man who keeps the dock—who seldom speaks but only motions his words like an automaton—you take your stand on the seaward end of the pier, and look northward. It is an embattled city of the same leaden gray, enveloped in the same leaden gray atmosphere in which you stand—a city of observations, mental, moral and physical, and the passengers that journey to and fro, are mostly aberrations of the same sort, either living or dead.

Only recently there came down on the little steamer a passenger who could scarcely be said to be either. A man of fifty years of age, say wasted to something more ghastly than a skeleton, is landed from the steamer and brought into the ferry-house by another whom the corpuscles have not yet got the better of. As he lies there in the open ferry-house gasping, you might imagine he had just escaped from a coffin at the Morgue and crawled there—would imagine so had you not just seen him put there by another almost as cadaverous as himself. Death already has its hand on him; yet, in the cold November wind, he is left for half an hour without rags enough decently to cover his nakedness. Take an inventory of the rags in question. A thin, tattered cotton shirt, open at the collar and buttonless; a rag of a coat that never had any lining and lets in the wind through uncountable rents: a second rag of pantaloons, also buttonless and tattered, which, should the sufferer start to his feet in any paroxysm, would drop off. Happily, or unhappily, however, the latter contingency is improbable; you would as soon expect to see all the cadavers in all the coffins at the Morgue start to their feet suddenly. In the name of common humanity, why was this permitted to happen?

A half an hour elapses, the man lying so still you cannot but fancy him dead. Then a common truck is impressed into service; the remains of what was once a man are hustled aboard, and the wheels rattle along Twenty-sixth-street to the air which they translate into fact—

"Rattle his bones
Over the stones;
He's only a pauper whom nobody owns."

In less than twenty-four hours that same emaciated morsel of poor humanity will no doubt be taken back in a coffin.

THE LUNATIC ASYLUM.

For the present, the institution to be inspected is the Lunatic Asylum, the most northerly of all. The reporter lands at the upper wharf, and threads his way along the river road, close to the low sea wall that encircles the City, as if but for it the waters would revenge themselves by washing it seaward. It is a gray building, like the rest, looking misty and fungous in the same thickened atmospheric envelope. To enter is like being ushered into a new world, peopled with a new humanity. Just south of it stands the mad-house proper, which no visitor is permitted to inspect. East of it are disposed five pavilions, painted yellow, which, with the main building and the mad-house, constitute a sort of village of lunatics, with statutes and regulations very different from those imposed upon the rest of the world.

The enumeration on the day visited exhibited an aggregate population of 1,310, of whom 900 sleep in the main building. One hundred and twenty-one occupy the mad-house, and twenty-seven are absent on pass or ticket-of-leave. A very cursory tour of the institution discloses an amount of discomfort quite sufficient to drive a patient mad, even should he happen to have been entered sane. Still, within the past four years, great improvements have been made. The dietary table has been reconstructed, (it was formerly worse than that of the Almshouse,) and other contributions to comfort have been introduced. The general air of the halls is that of dreariness; of the patients, that of squalor. In the appearance of not less than 500 patients there was ample evidence of insufficient clothing, and very generally a lack of neatness of person was apparent. In one hall three or four were standing in knots barefoot, with feet purple, as if with cold. It must be remembered, that good physical conditions and amiable surroundings are essential to the recovery of lunatic patients—as essential as a nutritious diet. Cleanliness ought not to consist in a general air of recent scrubbing.

THE PATIENTS OVER-CROWDED.

Evidences of over-crowding crop out everywhere—every hall is literally a box of human sardines. There are now in the asylum not more than 600 beds, and from 300 to 400 patients are in consequence compelled to sleep on bunks—two patients often occupying a single room of 700 cubic feet of air, which, scarcely sufficient for the oxygenation of one, is certainly most unequal to the needs of two. Again, attendants are overburdened. The Board of Superintendents (of American Asylums) lay down the rule that every hospital intended to accommodate from 250 to 300 patients, should have at least sixteen halls, in order to secure an efficient classification. Here are over 300 males packed in six halls, one of which is used for the sick in bed; and the women are as over-crowded as the men. One attendant to fifteen patients is the rule, that is, thirty to the hall managed by two attendants; but here some of the halls contain as many as seventy patients, with only two attendants, and throughout the ratio is stated at one attendant to every twenty-eight patients. Among disturbed patients attendants ought not to fall under the ratio of one to every twelve. During the past year, by way of provision for the increase in numbers—twelve per cent. per year, and last year fourteen per cent.—a new pavilion, equal to the accommodation of seventy, has been constructed—accommodation for 150 having been temporarily provided at the Work-house. The Lodge, however, becoming unmanageably overcrowded, rendered it necessary to use the two lower halls, formerly occupied by quiet patients, who were transferred to the pavilions and Work-house Department, congesting them still further. The result is apparent in the fact that last year (1869) the percentage of cures on the number of admissions was only twenty-seven per cent, against thirty-one per cent for the year preceding. The appliances for physical exercise are quite too limited—the gymnasium being practically useless; while, as to the matter of amusing the patients, provisions are almost null.

DEFICIENT ACCOMMODATIONS FOR BATHING.

Important as the bath-room is to the treatment of the insane, even in this respect the asylum is notably deficient. Under the system in operation all the patients are bathed once a week—some, of course, for special reasons, oftener. Ordinary bath-rooms are connected with the halls. The rooms have only a single tub apiece; the supply of water is limited; and the halls are often too frigid. Several bathers are compelled to use the same water—a fact of which complaint is loudly made—and the patient, owing to deficient accommodations, is frequently exposed to drafts of air while undergoing the ceremony of the bath. As a consequence, in cold weather, the reaction is unwholesome and the patient is rather depressed than invigorated by the ablution.

The subject of nutrition at the Asylum now claims attention. Until as late as the latter part of 1867, the pauper dietaries of the City were disgraceful, inhuman, equivalent to gradual starvation. During that year a thorough examination of the tables, under the supervision of Dr. AUSTIN FLINT, the physiological author, was projected and carried out, resulting in a complete reconstruction of the scale. At other hospitals the reconstructed scale was carried into effect; but at the Asylum the conveniences for cooking were too limited to admit of its full application. That the diet cannot have been greatly improved of late is obvious from the average cost of alimentation per patient daily, for three years:

1867	13¾ cents
1868	17 4-5 cents
1869	13 24-25 cents

The meat used for soup and roast is of the poorest and most innutritious quality. The coffee is three-fourths rye to one-fourth pure coffee; ration, one-fifth of an ounce. The ration of tea is one-eighth of an ounce; of milk, two ounces at breakfast and two at supper; of sugar one-half an ounce at breakfast and the same at supper; of hominy, mush, or oatmeal, two ounces; of molasses, one and a half ounces; of bread, twenty ounces. When milk is preferred to molasses, with mush or hominy, eight ounces extra is the ration, and the milk used in making puddings is also extra. The ration of meat is twelve ounces with bones, or an average of ten freed from them. It is partly boiled for soup-stock before roasting, or other preparation. For hash, when used, extra meat, is provided, also for beef-tea. The ration of potatoes is eight ounces; of pudding, six ounces; of butter, half an ounce; of boiled beans, four ounces; of hash, six ounces; of codfish, salt, five ounces.

It is obvious that fourteen cents per day, inclusive of extra provisions for the sick in bed, is scarcely equal to the alimentation of a healthy person—to say nothing of that of a system deranged by disease. The materials used in cooking are, in all staples, of inferior quality; and the cooking would not be regarded as wholesome by one accustomed to well-cooked food. The department is, in fact, inefficient—first, from want of conveniences for cooking; and, secondly, from want of skill. A healthy adult could not be expected to retain his efficiency in labor upon it—still less can a lunatic, one of the conditions of whose recovery is generous nutrition, be expected to make progress in the direction of sanity.

ANECDOTES AND ODDITIES.

In the course of a tour of the institution one comes across a multitude of curious fictions, and a few black eyes and disfigured heads. A few more are carefully swathed, and the appointed *cicerone* smuggles one past them as if to elude remark or question. Most of them look squalid, dogged, sullen and discontented; a few wag their tongues unceasingly, and half a dozen or more beg for a little tobacco.

Certain phases of monomania or hallucination appear to be generic. There are three George Washingtons and four or five Napoleons. These are common forms of hallucination. There is one poor patient—an ex-speculator in gold, probably—who insists that he is full of gold, and keeps trying to get at it. Another feels snakes crawling all through him, and terrible are his writhings, contortions and cries.

The instance of Dr. SPENCE, a graduate of the New-York University, is the only one in which the illusion appears not to be settled. One minute he is Napoleon. Then, having pirouetted once on his toes, he faces you as the unfortunate Duke of ——, whose estates have been confiscated.

"Terrible lawsuits," he proceeds to tell you in the lowest, softest and most musical voice to which you ever listened—"terrible lawsuits ensued, and I was kidnapped by a great monster and brought here. They have abused me, maimed me, bruised me since, to prevent anybody from identifying me." Then he owns New-York, and complains in that sweet, flute-like voice of his, that he is detained by enemies to prevent his taking possession. "I suppose," he adds, "that it has been built up a great deal since the monster caught me and brought me here. It is worth a great many millions now, no doubt. But I shall never see it." And the man says it so sadly that one pities, in spite of one's conviction of the unreality of the whim. Anon, the speaker takes a half-pirouette, stands contemplatively for an instant in deep meditation, then completes the pirouette, and faces you as the Marquis de Lafayette.

Pass him. Yonder is a thick-set, grizzly-headed man, who has been waiting for fifteen years to have the river dry up so that he can cross, after which he expects to take passage to England. "It dries up year by year—it gets narrower every Summer," he mutters, in answer to any question, no matter what; "but I shan't live to see. It'll come by and by, though;" and the old man on the sea-wall lifts his hand almost imploringly. It will come for him one of these days, though, when that poor, shrunken body of his drops over the sea-wall, and the poor, prisoned spirit takes tickets to an England more beautiful than the England of his dreams.

Fort Thomas Maxwell comes in for inspection. The frequenter of the grounds cannot but have noticed long rods of earth-works east of the main building. These are the work of THOMAS, who passed years in their construction. Last Summer two Commissioners needed the land for some purpose, and bought THOMAS off for $100,000, payable when he should have completed a new fort at another point. Here, with materials at hand, he has constructed a long rambling structure of wood, stone and earth: and here, forever, he toils on at his quite imaginary purpose—imaginary, one may say, but not less so than that of many who pass for sane. Death will storm the old man's fortifications presently, and fort and man will be forgotten together—the one nameless in his slumber in the Potter's Field; the other beaten down of the sea, and washed into mere oblivion.

So with them all, one by one; but, in the meantime, in common humanity let them not be starved, nor buffeted either. They will drop over the sea-wall one by one, leaving nothing of themselves except in the ponderous tomes of the history of cases and in the statistics of autopsies.

A Maine Vessel Wrecked—The Captain's Wife and Part of the Crew Drowned.

From the Boston Journal, Dec. 26.

The British ship *Euxine*, Capt. OWENS, from Liverpool, reached this port on Sunday, having on board a portion of the crew of schooner *Georgia Todd*, of Calais, Maine. We learn the following particulars from the Captain of the unfortunate vessel: The schooner *Georgia Todd*, of Calais, Capt. W. T. HILL, sailed from St. Stephens, N. B., Dec. 15, with a cargo of white pine boards, bound to Havana, and at 5 P. M. on that day she was nearly up with Machias, Seal Island bearing about south. The wind was north-west, and increasing, with a very heavy head sea. At 6 P. M., the vessel pitching heavily, it was found necessary to take in more sail, which was done, and the vessel was kept off south-south-west. It was noticed that the schooner acted strangely, and would not steer well even under all head sail, but as she was a little out of trim, it was attributed to that cause. At 8½ P. M., Sea Islands bearing north-north-east fifteen miles, it was suddenly found that the vessel was nearly full of water, and filling so quickly that the Captain had barely time to get his wife out of the cabin in her night clothes, not being able to save a single article of wearing apparel. The wind at this time had changed to north-north-west, blowing a gale. The vessel's course was turned to the southward. She went on very well for three hours, or until about midnight, when she broached to, and, turning over on her side, threw all hands into the sea. The first and second mates, the steward and the Captain's wife were all drowned. The remainder regained the wreck, and, after much trouble, succeeded in cutting the weather main rigging, when the vessel righted, and the survivors took refuge on the quarter and remained there, suffering terribly from the cold until Sunday afternoon, the 18th.

Fortunately, during the day the British schooner *Victoria* hove in sight, and at once made an effort to save the lives of the perishing men, although this vessel was also disabled and in a very leaky condition. They succeeded, however, in getting two of them off the wreck, but in coming alongside the vessel their boat was stove in and rendered useless, which accident prevented their return for the other two men still remaining on the wreck. Being determined to save them if possible they lay by all night, hoping to get the seamen safely off in the morning. But at daylight on the 19th, a ship was discovered to leeward, which proved to be the *Euxine*, from Liverpool for Boston, and as the *Victoria* was in such a poor condition as to be considered hardly seaworthy, the two rescued seamen were transferred to her. Capt. OWENS, of the *Euxine*, after hearing the story of the shipwreck, immediately made sail and stood for the *Georgia Todd*, trusting to be in time to save the rest of the crew. On coming up with the wreck the men were found to be still alive. They were promptly removed to the ship, where their wants were kindly attended to, and with their other companions were brought to this port. They express the warmest gratitude to the officers of the *Euxine* for the kind treatment received at their hands.

The following are the names of the lost: Mrs. HILL, Captain's wife; ALFRED PRICE, of St. Stephen, mate; JOHN KNIGHT, of Calais, second mate, and JAMES KENNEDY, of St. Stephens, steward.

The *Georgia Todd* was a schooner of 217 tons, built in 1868, at Calais, Maine, where she was owned by Mr. W. H. BOARDMAN.

AMUSEMENTS.

Theatrical.

AFFAIRS AT WALLACK'S.

The nightly changes of performance at Wallack's, this week, deserve notice. The programme traced until Saturday, is one intended to allow the play-goer to review the successful pieces of the season, these being afterward withdrawn for the production of novelties. This evening, however, the first representation, this season, of "The Heir at Law" is announced. "The School for Scandal" will have its final rehearsals to-morrow and on Saturday afternoon.

WOOD'S MUSEUM.

The last performances of "Paris" at Wood's Museum occur this week, the eleventh of the engagement of Miss LYDIA THOMPSON. On Monday next, the first hearing of "St. George and the Dragon" will be enjoyed. Meanwhile, we may be permitted to refer to the fact that the burlesque now acted is materially bettered by division into two acts, by a liberal infusion of timely words and songs, and by the co-operation of Miss ADA HARLAND, with Miss THOMPSON and her associates. The reign of these ladies, begun at Wood's, is seemingly as remote from its close at present as it was a twelvemonth ago, and as it is one having the sanction of popular suffrage because of its brightness, its largess of funny prose and tuneful music, and its freedom from bad influences, the prospect of its continuance is not dispiriting.

Musical.

NEW-YORK HARMONIC SOCIETY.

The "Messiah" was given very effectively last night, under the direction of Dr. JAS. PECH, at Steinway Hall. The performance was rather remarkable, inasmuch as for the first time, we believe, a rearrangement of the pieces of the oratorio was effected for the occasion. Thus, it has been customary to sing the "Hallelujah Chorus" at the end of the second part, and the aria "I know that my Redeemer liveth," at the beginning of the third. Last night they were both placed at the end of the performance, and by this transposition the Hallelujah Chorus" was made a climax which gave to the rendering a very effective termination. From the Overture to the chorus, "For unto us a Child is Born," the score may be considered prophetic. From the pastoral symphony to the chorus "His Yoke is Easy," refers to the immediate coming of the Savior. From "Behold the Lamb of God" to "Lift Up Your Heads," comprehends the Passion, Crucifixion and Ascension. The last part of all deals with the consummation of Christianity on earth, and introduces the tenor recitative and solo, "He that Dwelleth in Heaven," and "Thou shalt break them," and "The Trumpet shall Sound," with the magnificent contrapuntal choruses, "Worthy is the Lamb," and "Amen" as a close, as it may be supposed, of the rejoicing of the angels over the success of Christ's mission on earth. Here, as previously stated, "I know that my Redeemer" is introduced as a fitting tribute on earth of an acknowledgment of salvation. The angels in heaven are then understood to "Praise the Lord" in the form of the "Hallelujah." The rearrangement is cleverly accomplished; it is evident that Dr. PECH has planned it with care and consummate skill. The principal soloists on the occasion we write of were Miss MARIA BRAINERD, Miss C. V. HUTCHINGS, Mr. SIMPSON and Mr. JOSEPH JEWETT. The chorus and orchestra were somewhat small, but under the magnetic control of the leader, the whole performance became highly impressive. We trust this may be the commencement of better times for the New-York Harmonic Society. It is an old organization of respectability, and it is time that its members awoke from the lethargy into which for the last few years they have fallen.

SEASON OF OPERA BOUFFE.

Mlle. AIMEE took at the Grand Opera-house last evening the part of *Fiorella*, which she filled when "Les Brigands" was first represented in Paris. Though suffering from a cold, the effects of which lessened the fullness of her voice, the new artist sang the pretty music allotted to the brigand's daughter with the unusual refinement and finish which her execution of the numbers in "Barbe Bleue" induced us to look for in her after-efforts. A fresh song, introduced into the second act, had the honors of a demand for a repeat, while the waltz couplets in the first enjoyed a similar assurance of approval. Mlle. AIMEE acts the part, too, with a great appreciation of detail, and she and her associates were especially well rewarded for their exertions last night, by the applause of an audience that crowded the theatre. The representation progressed with exceptional vivacity and success, for the scene in which *Fragoletto* is invested with the insignia of the robber band was rendered again in its entirety, and the laughing chorus was exacted four times.

CHURCH MUSIC ASSOCIATION.

The rehearsal this afternoon at Steinway Hall will be conducted with the full orchestra and chorus, numbering nearly 350 members, the orchestra including about seventy instrumentalists. The music to be placed in rehearsal will be the overture to "Lurline," by WILLIAM VINCENT WALLACE; HAYDN'S "Third," or "Imperial Mass," and the whole of the "Preciosa" music, by CARL MARIA VON WEBER. Subscribers and their friends are particularly requested to take their tickets with them, as no persons will be admitted who are not supplied.

HERR FEININGER'S CONCERT.

Herr CARL FEININGER, a musician of recognized talent, announces a concert at Association Hall. It is to be given under the auspices of the German Young Men's Christian Association, and will take place on to-morrow evening. The artists are Mme. E. FEININGER, soprano; Herr W. CANDIDUS, tenor; Prof. M. S. PINNER, pianist: Herr H. O. C. KORTHEUER, pianist; Herr C. FEININGER, violinist.

Readers Abroad.

READINGS BY MARTIN F. TUPPER.

The London *Daily Telegraph* describes a reading by Mr. MARTIN FARQUHAR TUPPER. The article runs thus: "The reading was, with two exceptions, taken from Mr. TUPPER'S own books, the longest excerpts being from the work chiefly associated with his name. As a reader, he possesses natural qualifications which might cause him to be envied by many professed elocutionists. His voice is a resonant and agreeable bass, clear, flexible, and well-controlled. His accent and pronunciation are as good as need be—better far than we sometimes hear from the pulpit, the platform, or the stage. A little falling-off in strength and steadiness of tone might have been noticed as the reading advanced; and there were other slight signs of a deficiency of such practice as is needed to overcome both nervousness and susceptibility to fatigue. But, on the whole, Mr. TUPPER'S capacity for declamation is undeniably great, his fine musical voice and good style of delivery being assisted by a handsome person and graceful presence. In his recital of MACAULAY'S 'Horatius' and TENNYSON'S 'Locksley Hall,' he had many 'good moments,' which the scanty audience was not slow to recognize and applaud. But the general impression that the arrangement of the programme was a mistake appeared in the conspicuous and unpleasant fact that a larger portion of the company than could well be spared from the waste of benches, rose to go before Mr. TUPPER had got very far with his reading. Nevertheless, he made a manful fight against untoward circumstances; and, observing toward the close that the time for calling carriages had not fully come, proposed and carried a resolution to interpolate one or two 'ballads' before the last piece. The audience, taken by surprise, tacitly submitted; but not a hand was raised in grateful acceptance of the kind offer."

OBITUARY.

Sudden Death of Rev. Albert Barnes.

Rev. ALBERT BARNES, the distinguished divine and author of Philadelphia, died suddenly on Saturday afternoon, in the seventy-second year of his age. The *Age* says that he left his residence, No. 4,402 Walnut-street, about 3 o'clock on Saturday afternoon, on a visit of condolence to the family of Mr. REED, in the Twenty-seventh Ward. The distance was over a mile, and he was accompanied by his daughter. He was apparently in excellent health when leaving home, but, on the way, he experienced considerable difficulty in breathing, and was obliged to stop to recover himself. The indisposition soon passed off, and, continuing on, he reached the residence at about 4 o'clock. Mr. REED was buried only recently, and Rev. Mr. BARNES had taken a great interest in his family, and the visit was one of condolence with the bereaved ones. On entering the parlor Mr. BARNES seated himself to await the presence of some of the household. He again experienced a difficulty in breathing, and his daughter, noticing the fact, inquired if she could in any way give him relief. The father made no response, and, throwing his head back on the chair, expired in a few minutes, passing away apparently without any pain whatever. The blow was a severe one to the daughter, as also to the occupants of the house.

From the *North American* we quote the following brief sketch of Mr. BARNES' life: In the long catalogue of able and learned clergymen whom Philadelphia has had in her pulpits, and who have influenced their respective denominations and the direction of the religious progress for many years, it is questionable whether the Presbyterians have had any one who was more widely known and extensively influential than ALBERT BARNES. He was not an attractive or an impressive preacher. He never cultivated the graces of oratory; and his effects were, therefore, won by clearness of statement, force of logic, and, above all, by a sincere belief in the truth of his argument, rather than by any of those pulpit pyrotechnics that dazzle for an instant and die into a greater darkness.

Mr. BARNES was a native of Rome, New-York, and was born in 1798. He studied three years at Fairfield, Conn.; entered Hamilton College as a Senior, and was graduated in 1820. Religious convictions led him to desert his intended study of law for theology, and he was graduated in this at Princeton, and licensed by the Presbytery of Elizabethtown, N. J., at Lawrenceville, April, 1823. He took charge of the Presbyterian Church at Morristown, N. J., after having preached at other places in that State and New-England. After four years' service there he received a call from the First Presbyterian Church in this City, Seventh and Locust streets, and was installed June 25, 1830. After nearly forty years' service here, increasing blindness and the weight of years led him, two years ago, to surrender the pastorate and its active duties to a coadjutor, though we believe that his personal relations to it, as *pastor emeritus*, were never closed. His study was in the church building, and for years, in all seasons of the year, and in every vicissitude of the weather, he was there before the sun, and there, with his commentaries, histories and concordances, spent the greater part of his time. He was not given to calling or receiving calls. He left society chiefly to itself; from no distaste for its pleasures, nor not from any disinclination to genial companionship, but because early in life he planned that great work he was enabled to complete—*Notes on the Whole Bible*—and this, demanding familiarity with many languages and a vast amount of study and reference, left him little time for the secondary duties of a minister, and none whatever for individual relaxation and pleasures.

This work, as is recorded in the brief summary with which very recently Mr. BARNES completed his task and bade farewell to his labors, not without a certain touching reference to the early probability of the event we record, was planned or commenced in Morristown. The early design contemplated a commentary on the Gospels for use in Sunday-schools. This swelled to the greater dimensions subsequently assumed when Rev. J. H. ALEXANDER surrendered a similar work that he was engaged upon for the American Sunday-school Union to Mr. BARNES. The notes began with the New Testament, and covered the whole Scriptures. The great merits of the annotations are that they reject hypothesis more than most; present full topographical and historical elucidations; give the substance of others' conclusions in brief, and reference to them, while stating simply and fairly the author's convictions. These accord on all substantial issues with the rubric of the Presbyterians. But Mr. BARNES was not a zealot, and nowhere in his commentaries does he insist on the absolute importance of merely sectarian ideas. His views had a broad horizon, without deviating an iota from the platform of the most rigid of his denomination in fundamental issues.

In addition to his commentaries, that passed through many editions in this country and remain a standard for several denominations, and have been republished, approved and employed in Great Britain, and are referred to as embodying authority wherever orthodox doctrine is debated, Mr. BARNES published a volume in which he collected Scriptural opinions on slavery, a manual of prayers, family prayers, revival sermons, the relations of the Church to slavery, the atonement, essays and reviews, &c. He had great theological erudition, but mastered it and was not mastered by it. His style was simple, his industry great, his honesty beyond question, and his memory will long be cherished in all the churches as pure, bright and venerated as that of the foremost divines. The cause of Mr. BARNES' death was heart disease.

Christopher Farrell.

Mr. CHRISTOPHER FARRELL, father of Rev. CHRISTOPHER A. FARRELL, pastor of St. Joachim's Church, Matteawan, died at his son's residence at Matteawan, Dutchess County, on Christmas morning, aged sixty-nine years. Mr. FARRELL resided for many years in this City, and was one of the prominent members of St. Gabriel's Church, Rev. Father CLOWRY'S, before his removal to Matteawan. He was a highly respected citizen, and was ever active and earnest in forwarding all objects of charity and philanthropy. He immigrated to this country from Ireland when a young man, and has raised up a most reputable family. Our fellow-citizens, Messrs. MATTHEW A. and FRANCIS FARRELL, are his sons. By dint of economy and industry, the deceased gentleman acquired a competence, by which means he was enabled to give his children a good education, and lived to see one of them officiating at the altar of religion. He leaves behind him a large circle of friends among the business men of our community. A mass of requiem will be offered up for the repose of his soul at St. Joachim's Church, Matteawan, at 10 o'clock this morning, after which the remains are to be brought to St. Gabriel's Church, in East Thirty-seventh-street, where the final prayers will be offered up, and will then be taken to Calvary Cemetery for interment.

Incendiary Fire in Jersey City—Estimated Loss About $10,000.

Shortly before 9 o'clock last night a fire broke out in the store-room of MAXWELL'S rope-walk, situated in the rear of a row of tenement-houses in South Eighth-street, near Coles-street, in the Sixth Ward of Jersey City. The flames communicated to two stables owned by EDWARD HANFORD and Mr. EVANS, and from thence to the three-story frame tenement-house, owned by WM. MCCARTY, all of which were destroyed. The losses are estimated as follows: MAXWELL'S rope-walk, principally in material, about $7,000; WM. MCCARTY, $3,000; HANFORD'S stable and contents, $1,000; EVANS' stable, $5,000; ED. CULLEN'S house was damaged $500, and the rear end of a house on Railroad-avenue was damaged about the same amount. The fire was the work of an incendiary. The same place was set on fire two years ago.

English Importations of Farm Produce.

From the Pall Mall Gazette.

British breakfast tables are threatened with a serious disaster. The Tours Government, according to a telegraphic announcement last week, has prohibited the exportation from France of salt, eggs, and butter. We can spare the salt, but not the eggs and butter. While our agricultural population is stagnant or probably diminishing, the manufacturing and commercial districts are largely increasing in numbers. It is as certain as anything of the kind can be, that year by year we shall have to rely more and more upon foreign producers to supplement our insufficient home-grown stores. Last year we imported very nearly £7,000,000 worth of butter, about one-third of which, and much of it of the best quality, came from France. Eggs, which we have for four or five years past received at the rate of a million a day and something over, are almost exclusively imported from the same country. Could the embargo of the French Government be strictly enforced, the stint we should suffer may be estimated from the following figures: Quantities of butter and eggs imported into the United Kingdom from France during the five years ended with 1869. Butter—1865, 39,549,000 pounds; 1866, 50,646,000 pounds; 1867, 50,478,000 pounds; 1868, 44,081,000 pounds; 1869, 45,632,000 pounds. Number of eggs: 1865, 335,[illegible],000; 1866, 403,080,000; 1867, 360,480,000; 1868, 345,720,000; 1869, 385,800,000. Eggs are reckoned by the importers according to the "great hundred," *i. e.*, by the 120; and the price of French eggs at this rate in 1869 was 6s. 0¾d. There are already indications of weakness in the foreign butter imports, for during the ten months ended with October last, we received 7,900,000 pounds less than in the same period of 1869, but there is nothing at present to show that this is due to the French trade. There was, however, during the same month, no failure of eggs discoverable; they equaled the importation of 1869, and exceeded that of 1868—the ten months—considerably.

THE SKATING CARNIVAL.

A Regular Furor for Skating—Splendid Ice and Glorious Sport Everywhere.

Those who saw the vast throng of people with skates in hand, who crowded the cars leading to the Park ponds and other skating localities, yesterday, must have been reminded of the Winter of 1862-3, when the great furor for skating prevailed, for assuredly there has been no such rush of skaters to the ponds since until yesterday. In the first place, our citizens who delight in the invigorating Winter sport, had been deprived of any opportunity to indulge in it for nearly two years, and hence they were "red hot" for a day's skating. Another thing, too, was the happy combination of fortuitous circumstances which prevailed—fine weather and splendid ice on the principal holiday of the season. Everything served, therefore, to favor the skating fraternity with a gala day's skating, and they had it without doubt; and what is more, the promise is that the sport will prevail throughout the Holidays, for no skating season has been inaugurated under more favorable auspices than the present season was yesterday.

The rush to the Park began early yesterday morning, and those who first took the ice enjoyed the best of it, without doubt, for later in the day the throng of visitors was so great that the ice felt the pressure, and every weak spot was soon covered with water, the Police being kept busy in planting danger-posts and roping over the sections of the ice which had given way. Owing to these prompt preventive measures, no accidents of importance marred the pleasures of the day, a few involuntary foot baths occasionally, and one or two bad scares alone occurring during the day. Considering that fully a hundred thousand people must have been on the ice in the Park during yesterday, the occurrence of so few accidents shows how effective the measures of the Park officials have been. The Fifty-ninth-street Pond was the first to fill up, and from the high ground surrounding it a very picturesque prospect was presented about noon, and after dinner the crowd became so great that the ice seemed black with people. At the large central lake the throng was greatest in the afternoon, and at about 4 P. M. symptoms of weak ice began to exhibit themselves to an extent sufficient to induce the less venturesome to seek *terra firma*. The ice, however, as a general thing, stood the weight of the thousands very well, and after last night's strengthening process it will be equal to any demand today. At the upper pond—Harlem Lake—the residents of the outer wards of the City congregated by hundreds, and by reason, a busy and exceedingly lively scene was presented on the lake. An outside crowd took possession of the canal ice and soon cut it up, and all the little ponds on the vacant lots adjoining the Park, were used by the *gamins* of the Metropolis, the ice, fortunately, being very thick. Last Winter, several fatal accidents occurred at these places, owing to the thin ice.

The best patronized localities outside of the Central Park ponds were the Fifth-avenue Pond and Empire Rink, both of which benefited largely from the overflow from the Park, a steady stream of visitors from the Park crossing the avenues to the rink on Sixty-third-street, which was provided with a splendid sheet of ice some three inches thick, and all solid to the floor; while the little Fifth-avenue Pond, comfortably protected from cold winds by high dwellings, and having a glittering surface of ice, attracted a large patronage from the experts of the Metropolis of both sexes. At the rink, we noticed Mrs. JACKSON and daughter disporting themselves gracefully on the ice, as also Messrs. FISHER, MARTIN, WILLIAMS and MOORE, of the Empire City Skating Club; and, on the Fifth-avenue Pond, the veteran-looking but active DOTY, President DUPIGNAC, and a host of the skillful skaters of the New-York Club, attracted the admiring gaze of a crowd of spectators on the banks. In fact it was at these two localities that all the fancy skating was exhibited, as anything of the kind on the crowded Park ponds was out of the question. By the way, it is worthy of notice that all the members of the skating clubs are allowed the entrée to the rinks and inclosed ponds on giving their names and showing their badges. Such is the rule at the Fifth-avenue Pond, in this City, and at the Brooklyn and Jersey Rinks. The skating in Brooklyn, yesterday, was excellent at all the localities, and the furor for the sport prevailed to as great an extent in the City of Churches, yesterday, as elsewhere. The Prospect Park ponds were the centre of attraction until night, and then the brilliantly illuminated Capitoline and Union Ponds, and the handsomely-ornamented Rink monopolized the patronage, bands of music and fire-works at each place adding to the attractions on the ice. On the Capitoline we observed champion BRADY and young DALLARD, in skating costume, doing some fancy movements, and at the rink the members of the Brooklyn Skating Club were gathered in force. The ladies most favored the Capitoline. At the Union a double charge was made for the holiday skating, and it had the effect of making the attendance more select, the "roughs" seeking the Park ponds rather than pay extra.

Skating elsewhere was largely the feature of the sports of the day. In Paterson more skaters were seen on the numberless ponds of that busy town than ever before, and at Lake View and on Dundee Lake skaters gathered by crowds.

In Jersey City the rink was largely patronized during the day, and at night was crowded. The Jersey flats were also visited by the Germans of Hoboken, who "rolled" along the narrow creeks as if at home.

The ponds at Morrisania, Westchester, Fordham, &c., afforded the boys of those localities excellent skating.

THE CURLERS AT WORK.

The sons of Auld Scotia were fully alive to the fact that once again Christmas Day would afford them excellent opportunities to enjoy their national game of curling, and consequently yesterday morning found the members of the prominent curling organizations of the City busy laying out the lines for rinks, and sweeping the ice smooth for the sliding stones on the eastern end of the centre lake of the Park, which has been assigned to the City curling clubs for the season. It was intended to keep out the skaters from this section of the pond, but the crowd was so great that the limited force of Police found the task too great for them, and the result was that the curlers were materially interfered with by the skaters. This will not occur again, however, as today this portion of the lake will be roped off from the part devoted to skating. The clubs who had members present yesterday included the Thistle, St. Andrew's, Caledonian, New-York, Burns and Empire City. A handsome club-house has been erected for the curlers, and everything will be done to make things comfortable for them, as their games are one of the Winter attractions at the Park. Today the Thistle Club will play "points" among their members, at 10 A. M., and during the week the other clubs will follow suit; in fact, there will be curling every day at the Park while the ice is favorable.

The Paterson Club inaugurated curling at Hossey's Pond, yesterday, and a game was played at Lake View.

THE INDIANS.

Letter from Mr. William Welsh—Frauds and Want of Good Faith in the Treatment of the Different Tribes.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 23, 1870.

George H. Stuart, Esq.:

MY DEAR SIR: On reaching home, from Washington, at midnight, I found your note announcing the arrival of Mr. LANG, your colleague in the Board of Indian Commissioners. He called to see me this morning; and although frauds in Indian affairs were very great in the region I traversed, yet Mr. LANG discovered still greater frauds in the Southern Indian Territory, from which he has just returned. Texas oxen weighing 934 pounds, vouched for and paid for at 1,200 pounds, fell under my observation; but Mr. LANG saw such certified at 1,300 pounds each. He also witnessed the payment of $90,000 to the Quapaw Indians by a clerk of the Interior Department, one-third of the sum, say $30,000, being taken by a Gen. BLUNT, on the plea that he had procured the legislation at much cost of time and money. These and other iniquities will be revealed by the Appropriation Committee of the House of Representatives, as it is charged by a resolution with the investigation of these and other wrongs. The President of the United States desired that Committee to search the affairs thoroughly, and not to screen any guilty party, whether in a high or low office.

Yesterday, while examining vouchers in the office of the Second Auditor, my feelings were stirred up by seeing the criminal waste because your Board of Commissioners was not called on to supervise all expenditures of money and to inspect all goods purchased for Indians, in accordance with the act of Congress. When I first looked at these vouchers, before writing my report, my indignation was not very passive; but, yesterday, the case seemed far worse. I was fresh from the Indian Office, where the acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs had declined to send tent-cloth, even at the urgent request of the agent of the Upper Brulé Indians, who pleaded for the life of women and children exposed to the Winter's cold. The excuse was the fear that too much of the appropriation had already been spent to justify such an expenditure.

SPOTTED TAIL and his associates had carried to their people the pledge by our Government that good lodges should be given, as skin tepees could no longer be made, as hunting the buffalo had been forbidden. They said that fraudulent contractors had sent sheeting that could not resist the fierce winds of that region, instead of furnishing stout cotton tent-cloth. I had recently passed over the very ground where 300 helpless children, with many a fond Indian mother, had perished in the Winter through similar bad faith by Government officials. With these thoughts in my mind, do you wonder that such vouchers as this impressed me deeply: "Nov. 28, $155,000" to a rich contractor, where the profit must have been over 125 per cent.? I feel the more deeply because the head chief had recently said he would be glad to have a school for his children, if all of them did not perish during the Winter. The danger must be imminent, or the agent would not have pleaded so earnestly. His pleadings, however, were specially for widows and fatherless children. The cost of tents will be about $3,500, and $800 should be expended to give ponies to twenty of the Indians who have been foremost in cultivating the dry soil on which the the Upper Brules were forced to live.

This present was pledged to them by the Congressional Peace Commissioners, and there seems now to be an urgent need for its immediate fulfillment. Owing to the absence of rain, not a single ear of corn reached maturity last Summer; despondency is settling down upon this people, and under such a baneful influence Indians degenerate rapidly. One of these Indian tillers of the soil insisted on my taking and returning to the givers all the certificates of good conduct and friendship for the whites that he had received at various times from peace commissioners, army officers, and others, as he said these papers contained false promises only. This man, being a heathen chief, if further disheartened, might naturally head some of the hostile parties that occasionally make incursions on white settlers. Although we must by force restrain such, yet it is very wrong as well as unwise to exasperate the Indian by acting in bad faith toward him.

I do not like to tax our over-burdened President with such comparative trifles, but it is possible that Secretary DELANO may, on his return to Washington, give the subject favorable consideration. Immediate action should, however, be had, and it is probable that the publication of this letter may induce ten persons in this and other cities to guarantee to you the costs of these tents and horses if the Government does not authorize the purchase. I will gladly be one of the ten, and would willingly go further but for other engagements made during my last journey.

There need be no fear for the immediate future of the Indians, as such a stream of popular indignation is now rushing toward the Indian Office that that Augean stable will at last be thoroughly cleansed. The Senate and House of Representatives, I am satisfied from personal observation, are now fully prepared to sustain the merciful Indian policy of President GRANT, while the powerful lobbyists, with their ample pecuniary resources, find it difficult to induce one prominent man or a respectable newspaper to advocate openly their unrighteous cause.

I trust you may see your way clear to send twenty bales of good cotton tent-cloth, with needles and twine, to the Whetstone agency on the Missouri River, and also to authorize the worthy agent to give ponies to twenty Indians who have striven to cultivate the soil.

Yours, sincerely,
WILLIAM WELSH,
No. 1,122 Spruce-street.

Observations on Mount Washington—Thermometer Below Zero.

SUMMIT MOUNT WASHINGTON, N. H., Dec. 25, via LITTLETON, N. H., Dec. 26.—Observations taken at 7 P. M. are as follows: Barometer, 23.568; thermometer, 8° degrees below zero; relative humidity, 58; wind, north; velocity of wind, 54 miles an hour.

The Weather.

NEW-ORLEANS, Dec. 26.—The weather has moderated. Mercury 55°.

RICHMOND, Dec. 26.—The James River is frozen over this morning.

S. B. Mills, at Hill's Concert, at Association Hall.

It is only when surrounded by a galaxy of stars such as appeared at HILL'S concert, at Association Hall, filled to overflowing by an audience eager, fashionable, and critical, that each artist strives to do his very best. We all know what MILLS' best is; still on that occasion, he fairly electrified his audience by his marvelous playing. Untrammeled by an orchestra, which often overshadows the finest points of the pianist, he proved conclusively that among the many great pianists in this country at present, he is still the pianist *par excellence*, and ranks first in the order of merit. MILLS is a most thorough and painstaking artist, and invites rather than shuns difficulties, and while *en rapport* with his piano, as on that evening, a splendid Weber Grand, he produces most excellent effects. He made the piano literally sing in his "Recollections of Home," and in the evenness of its scale, his chromatic passages seemed a wonderful succession of immense power in the base, graduating into pianissimo in the extreme treble, in which every note came out with a silvery clearness and distinctness which was the very *acme* of piano-playing. To make such effects needs a *perfect* piano. An instrument may be *good*, but if a maker improves on a *good* one and makes a better, the artists speedily discover the fact. The fact is incontrovertible that the *action* of the Weber Piano is unrivaled. Possessing all the valuable qualities of any compeer, and having a deep, rich diapason tone, all its own, it has besides the merit of an easy, *silent* action, which is the most perfect and delicate in the world, and herein lies the reason of the recent great interest taken in the Weber Piano throughout the United States, and the cause why all the great artists prefer the Weber instrument.—*Evening Express.*

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—*Advertisement.*

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THE NEW-YORK SEMI-WEEKLY TIMES, published THIS MORNING, contains the very latest telegraphic and general news; editorials on matters of current interest; a page of carefully-prepared commercial matter, giving the latest financial news and market reports; items of agricultural and domestic interest, and marriages and deaths of the week and other interesting reading matter.

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DIED.

CLARRY.—On Saturday morning, Dec. 24, FRANCIS A. CLARRY, aged 41 years, 7 months and 20 days.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend his funeral from St. Peter and St. Paul's Church, in 2d-st., between South 2d and South 3d sts., Williamsburg, at 10 o'clock A. M. Tuesday, Dec. 27.

FRITH.—After a short illness, on Monday, Dec. 26, SARAH A. FRITH.

The friends of the family and the teachers of the Eighth Ward public schools are invited to attend the funeral from the First Baptist Church, Grove-st., Jersey City, on Wednesday, Dec. 28, at 2 o'clock P. M.

GIBBES.—On Christmas Day, EMILY OLIVER, widow of the late Robert Morgan Gibbes.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend the funeral services at Calvary Church, corner of 4th-av. and 21st-st., on Wednesday, 28th inst., at 10 o'clock A. M.

HOPPIN.—In Brooklyn, on Saturday, 24th inst., Mrs. AMY H. HOPPIN, relict of Henry Hoppin, of Providence, R. I., in the 82d year of her age.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral this Tuesday, at 1 P. M., from the residence of her son-in-law, Nehemiah Knight, No. 183 Harrison-street, Brooklyn.

HAYWARD.—In Brooklyn, E. D., on Saturday evening, Dec. 24, of Bright's disease of the kidneys, WILLIAM HAYWARD, aged 29 years, youngest son of the late Warden Hayward.

The friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral, on Tuesday afternoon, the 27th inst., at 2 o'clock, at the house of his brother-in-law, Wm. H. Smith, No. 120 South Portland-av., Brooklyn.

KNOWLTON.—In Burlington, N. J., on Saturday, Dec. 24, Capt. MINER KNOWLTON, U. S. A., aged 63.

His friends are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, at his late residence, on Thursday, Dec. 29, at 11 A. M.

PRICE.—On Friday, Dec. 23, at Greenpoint, L. I., THOMAS PRICE, in the 64th year of his age.

POWELL.—On Christmas night, THOMAS POWELL, aged 16 years, 2 months and 13 days, elder son of William H. Powell and Mary Cowing Powell.

The funeral will take place from the residence of his father, No. 45 East 22d-st., on Wednesday morning, Dec. 28, at 10 o'clock. The friends of the family are invited to attend.

READE.—On Monday morning, Dec. 26, at his late residence, No. 58 West 22d-st., M. GEORGE READE, formerly of San Francisco.

Notice of funeral hereafter.

REEVES.—On Monday, Dec. 26, at her late residence, No. 56 Broome-st., BARBARA, widow of Philip L. Reeves, in the 71st year of her age.

Funeral services at the Willett-street M. E. Church, Wednesday, Dec. 28, at 1 o'clock P. M. Relations and friends are respectfully invited to attend.

SHAW.—At Staten Island, on Christmas morning, MARY ANN SHAW, widow of Alexander Shaw, formerly of Athens, N. Y.

The funeral will take place on Tuesday morning, at 11 o'clock, from St. Ann's Church, 18th-st., near 5th-av.

THOMPSON.—Suddenly, on Thursday, Dec. 22, CHARLES THOMPSON.

His remains will be interred from his late residence, No. 308 East 113th-st., near 2d-av., on Tuesday, Dec. 27, at 11 A. M.

VAN PELT.—At Yonkers, 24th inst., SARAH TODD, widow of James L. Van Pelt, aged 78 years.

The friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral, which will take place on Tuesday, 27th inst., at 2 o'clock P. M., from her late residence, corner of Warburton and Ashburton avs.

WILSON.—Suddenly, of apoplexy, in Jersey City, Dec. 24, HENRY WILSON, formerly of Bangor, Me., in the 57th year of his age.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend the funeral on Tuesday, Dec. 27, at 2 o'clock P. M., at his late residence, No. 187 Mercer-st., Jersey City.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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DEC. 27.

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NOTICE TO THE TRADE AND PUBLIC.
BARTLETT'S ILLUSTRATED MAP OF NEW-YORK CITY will be published on the 29th of December, 1870. It is the most comprehensive and unique map ever produced of this City. No one should be without it, strangers especially. It shows the public buildings and places of amusement in their relative position. It also gives the various architectural beauties of the City. As an artistic production it stands unrivaled. Size 24x38. Neatly bound in cloth covers with gilt letters. Price, 50 cents, mailed on receipt of price. Publishing office, No. 399 Broadway, New-York.
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THE WORKING CLASSES.

Their Present Condition and Prospects.

A Hard Winter and Idle Times—Thousands of Mechanics and Laborers Out of Work—Strikes and Their Results, Morally, Socially, and Pecuniarily—Results of Co-operation.

The present Winter threatens to be more severe than many of its predecessors for several years, and there will doubtless be more than the ordinary demands made upon the pockets of the benevolent.

CONDITION OF THE BUILDING TRADES.

The business which, at this season of the year, gives employment to the greatest number of mechanics, is house-building. By it not only brick-layers and masons are kept busy, but also plasterers, carpenters, stair-builders, and a host of others. Until the beginning of this present month this business was quite brisk, and the number of houses, churches and institutions in different stages of erection or completion throughout the City will compare favorably with that of any previous year since the great speculative tide of 1865-6. But since the beginning of the month, trade has become dull, and business has fallen off, and it is estimated that at this time, of the 2,500 brick-layers and masons in New-York, at least 1,000 are idle; of the 900 plasterers, 400; of the 250 stair-builders, 100; of the 1,300 painters, about 800, and so on of the other trades, in the proportion of one-third or one-half idle to two-thirds or one-half working. One has only to go into any of the Police or Criminal Courts during their sessions to convince himself that there are thousands of idle men in the City at this moment, who cannot get work, save, perhaps, a day here and there at one thing or another.

THE CRISPINS' STRIKE.

But building is not an exceptional business. Every other trade is comparatively as dull. We are all familiar with the dullness of the boot and shoe trade, which has compelled manufacturers to reduce their employes' rates of wages fifteen per cent., and the strike of the Crispins, which has resulted therefrom. Various organizations throughout the country have pledged their pecuniary aid to the amount of $200,000. If this pledge is to be taken literally, the best thing the organization could do would be to start a factory at once, and give employment to the 200 or 300 men who are now seeking high prices, rather than to support them in idleness. With $200,000 four or more as large factories as any in New-York might be launched forth, and the workmen might, through them, become their own employers, and, as they seek to be, independent of their present "bosses." But it is almost morally certain that a strike of any trade at the present time will work much more ruin to this wages class than to the manufacturers or traders.

DULLNESS IN ALL TRADES.

It is just as dull in the printing and clothing trades as in any other. One class of work in any civilized community is so closely allied to all the rest that they are affected to some extent, one way or another, by the briskness or dullness of that one. So that if there is not much demand for clothing, the sale of hats, shirts, &c., will be proportionally and correspondingly small. And as the public are always the best judges of what each individual wants, a scarcity or a surplus will not materially change the result in any direction.

THE SAVINGS BANKS' BAROMETER.

At this season of the year always there is more or less of a draft upon the savings banks for the annually holiday purchases. This draft is unusually large this year, and the presumption is that a large proportion of the surplus drawn out is designed, not for gifts, but for actual necessaries of life. The savings banks are always pretty good indicators of the prosperity of the working classes, or the contrary, though it very frequently happens that others make deposits in those institutions, especially within the last two or three years, since those banks have adopted the regular bank deposit system. A great many men avail themselves of this accommodation, and make deposits in and drafts daily on the banks nearest to them. Hence the savings banks are not as reliable barometers now of the social condition of the masses as they were a few years ago. But nevertheless their steady increase in number from year to year shows very plainly that they answer an important need, and that the laboring classes of this Metropolis are steadily thriving and accumulating.

WHAT CO-OPERATION CAN DO.

But striking for higher wages or fewer hours, or on any other pretense, is a system of coercion that has failed of its mark ultimately in every single instance save one that has come within our knowledge, for the past fifteen years, or since trade organizations began to have an independent being, and to attract public attention. That single exception is the Iron Moulders' International Union, which, in vain endeavors to increase wages, or to keep them at a fixed rate, or reduce their working time, spent $1,000,000, and would have spent another million in the same hopeless effort had not some of their wiser and more far-seeing members foreseen that matters would continue to grow worse rather than better, were this policy of spending a dollar to win a cent indulged in longer. They saw that there was a better way, and they sought and found it in co-operation. And the result is, today, that the Iron Moulders' International Union, of North America, owns, and successfully works, about fourteen iron foundries in this country. And a consequent result from this is, also, that they have not had a strike of any great dimensions for several years. Some of the local Unions in this City and Brooklyn had strikes of short duration two or three years ago, and a Troy Union also had a strike, which resulted in a co-operative foundry among them, which they carried on very successfully for a time, and we believe still conduct it.

"STRIKING" FAILURES.

And now look at the results of a few of the most prominent strikes that have occurred within easy memory and distance of every one of us: The brick-layers, a few years ago, struck for the enforcement of the Eight-hour law, not understanding that their and our Albany masters never designed that it should be enforced, but enacted it merely as a political blind. They remained idle more or less, an average of about 1,000 of them, during the busiest and best season of the year for them, and the pecuniary outlay was $30,000. When the Winter succeeded the Autumn, hundreds of them were willing to work ten hours a day for less wages than they had been getting before the strike, but there was scarcely anything for them to do. The effect, socially and morally, upon the men, can hardly be estimated; but it may be inferred, from the fact that the stipend books were closed abruptly to get rid of a crowd who had become so addicted to idleness that they preferred $7 a week from their unions and nothing to do rather than $30 a week and work, which many of them had refused. It will also be remembered what strenuous efforts were afterward made to bring those tradesmen together, and get them to stand by the Union. The *esprit du corps* was gone, and they could not be rallied again, and the unions have not wholly recovered from that strike to this day.

Then there came the strike of the Typographical Union, (No. 6,) by which some 1,300 men, more or less, were idle for three or four months, and a sum of money estimated at $15,000 or $20,000 was almost thrown away; for certainly not one-fifth of the members of the Union have been permanently benefited by it, and we know there are some who even now have not recovered from its baleful results, and deeply regret that they ever went into it. In all those labor strikes there is more or less apparent and superficial success on the workmen's side at first, and there was far more than ordinary in the typos', because they had almost every daily paper in the City encouraging them, and praising up their cause, and giving them a fictitious idea of their own strength and importance. And yet, it will be remembered, that even with this influence, and the additional influence of the Working Men's Union of this City, the printers were unable to move his Honor the Mayor or the Common Council Committee on Printing to do anything in their favor, or even to make them a substantial promise on which they might build. The politicians were shrewder, and saw further than the mechanics, and knew that before the succeeding election came around the latter would be again in the harness, and the birds, old as some of them were, be caught once more with chaff. And now we see one of the leaders of this very craft elected to an important county office by the influence of Tammany. We have nothing to say against it, and only cite it as an evidence of the frailty of human nature, and the astuteness of politicians who will fiddle on this string for years to come, and expect the working men to dance because one of their number has been placed in the Coroner's chair.

There was also the cap-makers' strike, the painters' strike, the carpenters', the laborers', and the strike of the potters of Trenton, N. J., every one of which, save the first, was a miserable failure, and the success of that depended as much, if not more, upon the co-operation of the females as upon anything else. The painters split up in cliques, and they have not yet come together. And many of them who were getting $3 75 a day before the strike, very gladly accepted as low as half that sum before it was ended. The result was somewhat similar with the others. The bakers also had a strike for the double purpose of shortening their hours and lengthening their purses, but they too failed, and fell back more helplessly than ever into the doughy depths. The umbrella and parasol makers had, also, a partially successful strike. But the exceptions are barely sufficient to enforce the almost universal rule that striking is a losing game, and the side that has the least to lose actually loses most, and "from him that hath not is taken away even that which he seemeth to have."

GREAT FIRE IN FLORIDA.

A Large Number of Buildings Destroyed in Jacksonville—Loss a Quarter of a Million Dollars.

From the Jacksonville Union, Extra, Dec. 20.

The most disastrous fire which has occurred in this city since the war, broke out last evening, and entirely destroyed the buildings on both sides of Bay-street and the south side of Forsyth-street, between Pine and Laura streets, with the exception of a few buildings on the latter street.

About 7½ o'clock, a wooden building situated on the wharf, directly behind and connected with DAVIS & DREW'S furniture warehouse, was discovered on fire. The upper story of this building was used as a warehouse and factory by DAVIS & DREW, and was filled with furniture, moss and other articles. The lower story was used by J. M. FAIRBANKS & Co., and by Mr. W. M. DREW as a storehouse, and was filled with lime, cement, hair, plaster, hay and other articles. Adjoining this building, on the south, was M. W. DREW'S ice-house, containing about 250 tons of ice. In less than fifteen minutes the furniture-store and the store of J. M. FAIRBANKS & Co., and the building occupied up stairs by the *Florida Union* office, and down stairs by SPENCER, MAXWELL & Co., were enveloped in flames, which spread so rapidly that it was impossible to save any of the contents. These buildings were of brick, two stories high.

The wind, fortunately, was light; but it blew from the south, carrying the flames across Bay-street to the wooden buildings on the opposite side. From the *Union* office the fire spread to S. B. HUBBARD'S store, filled with a large stock of hardware and housekeeping material, and his warehouse and tin-shop in the rear; then to POLK'S new building, occupied on the lower floor by A. N. PACE as a grocery-store, and by Major HOLBROOK'S newly-fitted-up bar and lunch-room; the second story was occupied by the Freedmen's Bureau office, and in the third story was a large hall where Prof. BAILEY'S theatrical scenery stood. Next to this building were small wooden buildings owned by H. H. HOEG, Esq., and occupied by DZIALYNSKI & BERLACK and by W. S. DODGE, as auctioneer stores, which were swept away, as well as several large wooden warehouses and several hundred cords of fire-wood piled upon the wharves. The wharves were entirely destroyed at this point. It seemed for some time impossible to save Mr. HOEG'S fine new Atlantic Block, which was separated by only a narrow passage-way from DZALYINSKI'S auction-room, but by the strenuous exertions of the firemen and citizens, with water passed up in buckets, and two streams from the steam fire-engine, the building was saved and the fire checked in that direction.

Toward the west the fire spread rapidly from DAVIS & DREW'S building to HOLMES' block, occupied on the lower floor by HUFF & FREIDENBURG, and Mr. POTSDAMER, as a clothing-store, and SMITH & BROTHER as a grocery. The second story was occupied as a furniture warehouse by W. H. HUBBARD. This building, with the structures and wharves in the rear, were entirely destroyed, and the flames attacked the splendid new three-story building belonging to Messrs. ROSS & HAZELTINE, known as Masonic Hall, swelling over the high roof and lapping around the corners in vain efforts to gain a hold, but the solid brick walls and iron shutters resisted the attack, and though the building was for a long time in imminent danger, it was finally saved.

On the opposite side of the street, the flames from the *Union* office seized upon the wooden building owned and occupied by T. S. EELLS as a general dry-goods and grocery store, and immediately swept away the entire row of wooden buildings on that side of the street, from WITSCHEN'S brick store, near Laura-street, to the corner of Pine-street, and, extending back, swept away several buildings on the south side of Forsyth-street, including Mrs. D. JONES' house and millinery-store, and FRANK HOWARD'S stable building (unoccupied.) The new Freedman's Bank building, in process of erection, narrowly escaped destruction, and the St. John's House, the Magnolia House and other buildings on the north side of the street were only saved by the strenuous exertions of the occupants in extinguishing sparks and wetting the roof and piazas. The wind freshened about 9 o'clock and drove large volumes of sparks upon the rear of the city, endangering the houses half a mile away, and causing the owners to mount the roofs with water-buckets and blankets. Several houses some distance from the main fire were ignited but quickly extinguished.

THE FLORIDA UNION OFFICE.

The flames appeared so suddenly in the immediate rear of the *Union* office, and came pouring through the back office windows so quickly and fiercely that no time was allowed in which to remove the material, though several men were engaged at the time in the front room. An attempt was made to save the books and papers in the editorial room, but without success. A few papers were secured, but the furniture, including a valuable library, desk furniture, files and papers, were lost. In the business office the clerk (who was himself scorched in the process) succeeded in saving the account and subscription books, but could not remove the most valuable contents of the safe, which went down in the ruins. The entire contents of the office were burnt. One or two locked forms and a few cases of type were removed from the composition-room. All the rest of the property, including a very valuable amount of unfinished work in the press-room and bindery, was lost.

LOSSES.

It is impossible as yet to ascertain exactly the amount of loss suffered by different individuals, but the following is a general estimate: Messrs. HALL, ROSS & HAZELTINE, damaged to the extent of about $4,000; loss sustained by the occupants of stores and offices in removing and losing goods and furniture, about $1,000; Holmes' Block and the *Union* building, owned by T. O. HOLMES, loss about $12,000, insured for $5,500; SMITH & BROS., grocers, loss about $9,000, insured for $6,000; J. HUFF, clothing, loss about $20,000, insured for $10,000; J. POTSDAMER, clothing, loss about $8,000, insured for $3,000; J. M. FAIRBANKS & Co., loss about $3,000, insured for $2,000; W. H. HUBBARD & Co., furniture, loss about $15,000, insured for $8,000; M. W. DREW, lime, cement, hay, &c., in warehouse, loss $5,000, ice $2,000, no insurance; DAVIS & DREW, furniture, loss $15,000, insured for $8,000; SPENCER, MAXWELL & Co., buildings and stock, insured for $2,500; *Florida Union* office, loss $10,000, insured for $7,000; S. B. HUBBARD, loss about $75,000, insurance on building $10,000, on stock $25,000; POLK, building; A. P. HOLBROOK, stock saved, estimated loss about $3,000; A. N. PACE, grocer, unknown; W. S. DODGE, loss about $8,000, insured for $2,800; H. BERLACK, unknown; F. SANCHEZ, restaurant; C. FREIDENBERG, building and stock, loss $15,000; insured for $2,000; R. T. MASTERS, loss in stock $35,000, insured for $8,000; G. ANDERSON, loss $800, insurance $200; GEORGE EMORY, loss $2,500, insurance $1,000; GEORGE E. SAWYER, unknown; P. R. Jarvis, unknown; SAMUEL COHEN, loss about $3,000, insured for $1,000; E. S. BAKER, grocer, loss about $1,500, insured for $500; R. H. CHARLES, unknown; T. S. EELLS, loss on building and stock about $12,000, no insurance; P. DIAMOND, unknown; H. P. FRIEDENBERG, loss $8,500, insured for $5,000; R. DORMAN, unknown; S. RITZEWOLLER, loss unknown, insured for $4,000; Mrs. JONES, millinery, loss on house and stock, $4,000, insured for $1,500; D. C. GARCIA, tobacconist, loss by removal; H. H. HOEG, loss of warehouse and wharves, and damage to Atlantic block, loss, $3,000, no insurance; R. P. MCCANTS, goods in frame warehouse. In addition to the losses enumerated above, a great deal of damage was suffered by parties whose names we have not obtained, both by burning, damage in moving, and loss by theft. The origin of the fire is unknown. Some suppose it to have been caused by the spontaneous combustion of some article in the warehouse, and others ascribe it to incendiarism.

How a Texas Woman Persuaded her Husband to go Home.

From the Galveston (Texas) News, Dec. 16.

A correspondent of the Denton *Monitor* says a handsome, dashing woman rode into a village in that region, a few days ago, and, alighting from her horse, went rapidly to a drinking saloon, where a number of sovereigns were having a "high time." She singled out the finest-looking man in the crowd, and, walking up to him, seized him by the arm and ordered him to put down the glass which he was about to drain. He dashed down the glass and rushed away; the lady followed, and finally cornered him in the billiard-room. She told him, in a firm, determined voice, that the place he was in and the course he was pursuing would not answer for her husband; that he was wasting her property, and that she would no longer consent to be disgraced and impoverished by him. She demanded his pistol. He refused. She took it from him, cocked it and presented it at him, and told him he must leave or die. He concluded to leave. She marched him out as a prisoner of war to where his horse was hitched, ordered him to mount, and in a few minutes the two were leaving town, the wife riding in the rear of her captured lord, with his six-shooter in her hand.

Rebellion in the Nashville Prison—One of the Inmates Shot.

From the Nashville (Tenn.) Union, Dec. 23.

For some days past, a party of negroes confined in the jail have shown a disposition of insubordination, and some of them went so far as to offer serious threats, and declaring that they would kill any person who attempted to enter their cell. The jailer, fearing that they might be engaged in an attempt to cut out, determined, yesterday morning, to make a personal examination. He asked one of the Jail Commissioners to accompany him to the jail. He also requested Sergt. CULLUM, of the Police, to be present, and assist him in quelling any disturbance, should one occur. Between the hours of 10 and 11 o'clock, the jailer proceeded to open the cell, and with Sergt. CULLUM entered the door. As soon as they stepped in, several of the negro prisoners made at them with bottles and such other articles as they could pick up. One of the prisoners, named HENRY MARTIN, sent here from Clarksville, and awaiting trial before the Supreme Court, was in the act of making a furious onslaught upon the jailer, when the latter drew his pistol and fired at the prisoner, the ball passing through his body. Another of the prisoners attempted to strike Sergt. CULLUM, when a negro prisoner, who had the privilege of the yard, and who had armed himself with a club, struck him a blow on the back of the head and felled him to the floor. This quieted the belligerents, and nothing further occurred to disturb the peace of the institution. MARTIN received an ugly wound, at first supposed to be fatal, but at a late hour last night he was resting comfortably, and it was thought he would recover. From all accounts of the affair, SHELTON has been very forbearing to these miscreants, and his action in the premises is deemed entirely justifiable.

Another Flying Machine "Nearly Completed" by a San Francisco Man.

From the San Francisco Bulletin, Dec. 17.

A few months since J. B. MORROW, a citizen of this place and a practical engineer, commenced work on the model of a flying machine which he has since carried nearly to completion. Today it was set in motion at a shop on the corner of Fremont and Market streets, and the results were entirely satisfactory. As yet the lifting and sustaining power is not wholly supplied, but that has been a demonstration for centuries past. The model which we saw is designed to exhibit the propelling and guiding forces. The balloon has attached beneath it a light but strong framework for the support of the machinery and passengers. At the top of this framework, and just under the balloon, is an arm and shaft, and at either end of the shaft are propellors, or fans, which are reversible and easily adjusted to any required position by means of pulleys. By these the engineer may turn the vessel, reverse its course, or give it an upward or downward inclination; the supply of gas remaining always the same in the balloon. The propellor shaft is worked by a double upright engine, set within the framework, and driven by a boiler of a peculiar construction, combining the forces of steam and air, so that ten gallons of water will—it is calculated—drive a ten-horse power engine five hours. On a level with the boiler is the frame on which the saloon for passengers is to be constructed.

The engine of the model works smoothly, and revolves the fans with great velocity. The inventor intends to have a balloon manufactured in a few days. When it is completed he will give the machine a fair trial. Several scientific men have examined it, and expressed their conviction that Mr. MORROW has made important discoveries in the science of aerial navigation.

Sad Accident at a Fire.

A fire, caused by an over-heated stove, occurred yesterday in the apartment of JOHN LOWRY, coachman, on the second floor of the stable of Rev. WM. ADAMS, No. 20 Lexington-avenue. The smoke and flame so alarmed Mrs. ELIZABETH LOWRY, wife of the coachman, that she jumped from a window to the street, and received a concussion of the spine, which paralyzed her, and she was removed to Bellevue Hospital. The damage to property was not more than $700. The building is owned by WM. LAIMBEER.

CITY REAL ESTATE.

A DESIRABLE HIGH-STOOP DWELLing, with all modern improvements, 22.6x55x100, for sale very low; between 5th and 6th avs., 9th-st. Possession. V. K. STEVENSON & SON, No. 11 Pine-st.

FOR SALE OR TO LET—THE SPLENdid dwelling-house No. 150 2d-av., near 10th-st., in perfect order; possession given 1st of February, or sooner if desired. For permit apply to W. A. RANSOM, No. 384 Broadway.

FOR SALE—A FIRST-CLASS STORE ON the west side of Broadway, near Fulton-st.; lot in fee; price low and on easy terms. Inquire of HOMER MORGAN, No. 2 Pine-st.

BROOKLYN REAL ESTATE.

FOR SALE OR TO LEASE FOR A TERM OF YEARS—A house and two lots, 25 by 100, corner of 18th-st. and 4th-av., Brooklyn. For particulars, inquire of J. M. FULLER, No. 244 Fulton-st., New-York.

COUNTRY REAL ESTATE.

ORANGE, N. J.—VILLAS, VILLA SITES and farms, a great variety, beautifully situated one hour from N. Y., for sale low. Also, country-seats and houses to let for the season, or year, by BLACKWELL & SMITH, No. 2-3 Broadway, N. Y., 9 to 11 A. M.; Orange, corner Main and Cone sts., 1 to 5 P. M.

DWELLINGS TO LET.

TO LET OR FOR SALE—AT ELIZABETH, comfortable 12 room house; modern fittings; near depot; 45 minutes from Wall-st.; 50 trains daily—commutation 11 cents per trip, on favorite line of travel. Inquire at West Elizabeth (Jersey-st.) station, or address C. C., Box No. 235 Post-office, New-York.

STORES, &C., TO LET.

CANAL-ST., NO. 259, NEAR BROADWAY. —Store, basement and five lofts, each 25x90, will be let together or separately.

Also, No. 200 Canal-st., store 25x90, with two basements, each 50x90. Apply to A. TUSKA, No. 200 Canal-st.

OFFICES TO LET IN THE BIBLE-HOUSE, 4th-av., 8th and 9th sts. Desirable rooms, singly or en suite, on second story, fronting on Astor-place; rooms heated by steam. Apply at Treasurer's office, 4th-av.

TO LET—THE ELIGIBLY SITUATED double marble stone basement, Nos. 594 and 596 Broadway, 50x200. Apply to A. RAYMOND, No. 123 Fulton-st.

REAL ESTATE AT AUCTION.

E. H. LUDLOW & Co., Auctioneers.

EXECUTOR'S SALE OF THE ESTATE of A. J. Cipriani, at 12 o'clock, Jan. 26, 1871, at the Exchange Sales-room, No. 111 Broadway, New-York, viz.: Buildings and lots, No. 11 Pine-st., No. 73 Nassau-st., and No. 43 Liberty-st.; six-sixteenths in packet ships of the Black Ball line; $2,890 scrip Atlantic Mutual Insurance Company, and 404 acres 111 perches of land in Monroe County, Penn.

Particulars at auctioneers' office, No. 3 Pine-st.

FINANCIAL.

MUNROE & CO., AMERICAN BANKERS,

NO. 7 RUE SCRIBE, PARIS.

JOHN MUNROE & CO.,

NO. 8 WALL-ST., New-York,

Issue Circular Letters of Credit for Travelers in all parts of Europe, &c. Exchange on Paris.

CITY STOCKS,

THE BEST SECURITY IN THE WORLD,

SEVEN (7) PER CENTS,

TWENTY TO THIRTY YEARS TO RUN.

DITTO DUE IN 1874-75,

FOR SALE.

GEO. K. SISTARE, No. 24 Nassau-st.

P. S.—City 6s bought and sold.

NOTICE TO HOLDERS OF MEMPHIS CITY BONDS.

MAYOR'S OFFICE, CITY HALL, MEMPHIS, Tenn., Nov. 30, 1870.

$500,000 OF THE THIRTY-YEARS GOLD BONDS of the City of Memphis, known as FUNDING BONDS OF 1870, principal and interest payable in gold coin, as authorized by ordinance of the General Council of the city, for the purpose of funding a like amount of the due debt of the city, are now ready for delivery in exchange for any of the due debt at par. Interest will be allowed upon past due BONDS, COUPONS, NOTES AND SCRIP, from maturity until Nov. 1, 1870, at the rate of six per cent. per annum, at which date the interest upon the Bonds commences at the rate of six per cent., payable in gold, semi-annually, in the City of New-York, on the FIRST DAY OF MAY AND NOVEMBER in each year. The exchange can be made, as may be most convenient for the holders of the debt, at the office of the City Controller, City Hall, Memphis, Tenn., or at the banking-houses of P. M. MYERS & CO., No. 24 Pine-st., New-York, and MCKIM & CO., South Baltimore-street, Baltimore, Md.

JOHN JOHNSON, Mayor.

Referring to the above notice, we are now prepared to issue Gold Funding Bonds in exchange for any of the past due debt of the City of Memphis.

P. M. MYERS & CO., BANKERS, NO. 24 PINE-ST.

JAMES G. KING'S SONS, BANKERS, NO. 54 WILLIAM-ST., NEW-YORK. Issue letters of credit on London and Paris, available in all the principal cities on the Continent. Buy and sell exchange on London, Paris, Amsterdam, Edinburgh and Glasgow.

OFFICE OF THE AMERICAN COAL COMPANY, ALLEGHANY COUNTY, MARYLAND, NO. 119 BROADWAY, ROOM NO. 5, NEW-YORK, Dec. 13, 1870.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE stockholders of this Company for the election of Directors to serve during the ensuing year, will be held at this office on THURSDAY, 29th December, inst. Polls will be open from 12 o'clock M. until 1 o'clock P. M. The transfer-books will be closed from the evening of Monday the 19th, until the morning of Friday, the 30th inst. M. A. MYERS, Secretary.

MECHANICS' AND TRADERS' NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 24, 1870.

AN ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this institution for the ensuing year, and for three Inspectors for the next ensuing election, will be held at the banking-house on WEDNESDAY, Jan. 11, 1871.

Polls will be open from 2 to 3 o'clock. By order, GEO. W. YOULE, Cashier.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1870.

A MEETING OF THE SHAREHOLDERS of the Manhattan Telegraph Company will be held at the principal office, No. 122 Front-st., on the 28th, for the election of Directors. Polls open from 12 to 1 o'clock. WILLIAM LAVTIN, President.

FINANCIAL.

Montclair Railway NEW-JERSEY

7 PER CENT. GOLD 1ST MORTGAGE BONDS,

INDORSED BY THE NEW-YORK AND OSWEGO Midland Railroad Co.,

FOR SALE IN DENOMINATIONS OF $1,000, $500 AND $100.

GOVERNMENT SECURITIES EXCHANGED AT MARKET RATES.

SEND FOR CIRCULAR AND MAP.

LEONARD, SHELDON & FOSTER, BANKERS, NO. 10 WALL-ST.

THE NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, NO. 336 BROADWAY.

CAPITAL - $1,000,000

DEPOSITS, OVER $5,000,000.

PAYS 4 PER CENT. INTEREST ON DEPOSITS SUBJECT TO CHECK AT SIGHT.

PAYS 5 PER CET. INTEREST ON SPECIAL DEPOSITS FOR SIX MONTHS OR LONGER.

THE COMPANY IS A LEGAL DEPOSITORY FOR MONEYS PAID INTO COURT, AND RECEIVES MONEYS IN TRUST.

DARIUS R. MANGAM, President.

B. L. SOLOMON, First Vice-President. BENJ. F. BANCROFT, Second Vice-President.

JAMES MERRELL, Secretary.

8 per Cent. Interest FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS OF THE ST. JOSEPH AND DENVER CITY RAILROAD COMPANY.

Principal and Interest Payable in Gold.

105 MILES COMPLETED, and in operation, the earnings on which are in excess of interest on the total issue. Grading finished, and ONLY 6 MILES OF TRACK ARE TO BE LAID TO COMPLETE THE ROAD. Mortgage at the rate of $13,500 per mile. Price 97½ and accrued interest. We unhesitatingly recommend them, and will furnish maps and pamphlets upon application.

W. P. CONVERSE & CO., No. 54 Pine-st.

TANNER & CO., No. 11 Wall-st.

V. K. STEVENSON. V. K. STEVENSON, JR

V. K. STEVENSON & SON, No. 11 Pine-st., New-York, OFFER FOR SALE THE SOUTH AND NORTH ALABAMA RAILROAD 8 PER CENT. FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS, INTEREST AND PRINCIPAL IN GOLD.

GUARANTEED BY STATE OF ALABAMA.

Length of road from Montgomery to Decatur, 183 miles; 107 completed; iron and ties for 15 additional now on the ground, which will complete 122 miles, leaving but 61 to complete, upon which a large amount of work has been done. Land grant over 200,000 acres; local business good, and through connections unsurpassed.

Passenger and freight cars are now running over this road from Montgomery to Lime Kilns, which completes the AIR LINE to New-York, and insures a business more than sufficient to meet the interest on all bonds issued.

The Bond is three times secured.

First—By the mortgage on the land.

Second—By the Guarantee of the State of Alabama.

Third—By the LARGE capital INVESTED in the road.

Either of which is sufficient to secure the bonds. Price 95 and accrued interest, in currency. For map, pamphlets, &c., apply to or address the agents.

BROWN BROTHERS & CO., NO. 59 WALL-ST., issue COMMERCIAL and TRAVELERS' CREDITS AVAILABLE in all PARTS of the WORLD.

PROPOSALS FOR $250,000 DOCK BONDS OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK.—Sealed proposals will be received at the Controller's Office until WEDNESDAY, Dec. 28, 1870, at 2 o'clock P. M., when the same will be publicly opened, for the whole or any part of the sum of $250,000 of Dock Bonds of the City of New-York, authorized by chapter 383, laws of 1870, and by a resolution of the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, passed Dec. 14, 1870. Said bonds will bear interest at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum, payable on the 1st day of May and November in each year, and the principal will be redeemed on the 1st day of November, 1901.

The proposals will state the amount of bonds desired, and the price per one hundred dollars thereof; and the persons whose proposals are accepted will thereupon be required to deposit with the Chamberlain the sums awarded to them respectively, together with any premiums thereon.

On presenting to the Controller the receipts of the Chamberlain for such deposit, the parties will be entitled to receive certificates for equal amounts of the par value of the sums awarded to them, bearing interest from the dates of payment.

Each proposal should be sealed and indorsed "Proposals for Dock Bonds of the City of New-York," and inclosed in a second envelope addressed to the Controller.

The right is reserved on the part of the Controller to reject any or all of the bids, if in his judgment the interests of the Corporation require it.

RICHARD B. CONNOLLY, Controller.

CITY OF NEW-YORK, DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, CONTROLLER'S OFFICE, Dec. 20, 1870.

OFFICE OF THE ATLANTIC MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY, NO. 51 WALL-ST., CORNER WILLIAM, NEW-YORK, Dec. 15, 1870.

THE BOOKS OF THIS COMPANY will close on the 31st inst., preparatory to its annual statement. Persons holding policies on risks terminating during the year prior to the 1st of January next, are requested to furnish an account of the premiums thereon and a statement of all claims for return of premiums, to prevent discrepancy in the accounts. J. H. CHAPMAN, Secretary.

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY, NO. 145 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1870.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT on and after the 23d day of January, 1871, all transfers of stock of this Company will be made at the Union Trust Company in the City of New-York—that for the purpose of perfecting the change of the transfer-office to the Union Trust Company as required by resolution of the Board, the transfer-books will be closed at the close of business on the 31st day of December, instant, and remain closed until the morning of Jan. 23, 1871, then to be reopened at the office of said Union Trust Company. O. H. PALMER, Secretary and Treasurer.

NATIONAL BUTCHERS' AND DROVERS' BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 10, 1870.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this Bank and for Inspectors of the next ensuing election, will be held at the banking-house, No. 124 Bowery, on TUESDAY, the 10th day of January next, between the hours of 12 and 1 P. M. G. G. BRINCKERHOFF, Cashier.

DELAWARE, LACKAWANNA & WESTERN RAILROAD COMPANY, NO. 26 EXCHANGE-PLACE, NEW-YORK, Dec. 8, 1870.

TRANSFER-BOOKS OF THE MORRIS and Essex Railroad Company will be closed from morning of Dec. 12 till morning of Jan. 3, 1871. A. J. ODELL, Treasurer.

GROCERS' BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1870.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this Bank will be held at the banking-house, on the 10th day of January next, between the hours of 12 and 1 o'clock. SAMUEL B. WHITE, Cashier.

STUYVESANT BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1870.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR FIFTEEN Directors and three Inspectors of Election of this Bank will be held at their banking-house, No. 744 Broadway on TUESDAY, Jan. 3, 1871, between the hours of 12 M. and 1 P. M. JOHN VAN ORDEN, Cashier.

MONEY TO LOAN ON DESIRABLE IMproved and unimproved City, and Brooklyn improved real estate; mortgages promptly cashed; principals only dealt with. WM. SINCLAIR, Jr., & CO., No. 3 Pine-st.

FINANCIAL.

WINSLOW, LANIER & CO.

BANKERS, NO. 27 PINE-ST.,

OFFER FOR SALE THE FIRST MORTGAGE 7 PER CENT. GOLD BONDS OF THE Evansville, Terre Haute and Chicago Railroad Company.

This road, fifty-five miles long, extends from Terre Haute northerly to Danville, Ill., forming part of the great through route from Chicago to Terre Haute, Evansville, Nashville, and the South. Twenty-five miles of the iron are now laid, and by the early part of January thirty-one miles will be in use for business.

The local subscriptions to the capital stock of the Company are $450,000

All of which is payable in cash at par; of this

$300,000 HAS BEEN PAID IN.

First Mortgage Bonds $750,000

This road is being built by Chauncey Rose, Esq., of Terre Haute, and his associates, who are the chief subscribers to the capital stock. The extraordinary success of the enterprises heretofore managed by these gentlemen, and the high prices of the securities based upon them, are evidences of what may be expected from this project. We recommend these bonds as an undoubted security.

Price, 90 cents and accrued interest, in currency. Commissions allowed bankers.

FOR SALE. CHOICE CITY AND COUNTY BONDS, PAYING 10 PER CENT. & OVER, FREE OF ALL TAXES,

FIRST-CLASS SECURITIES OF UNDOUBTED CHARACTER, BELOW PAR.

ALSO, NEW-YORK CITY RAILROAD STOCKS AND BONDS, INSURANCE, BANK AND GAS-LIGHT STOCKS, INCLUDING AN EXTENSIVE VARIETY OF OTHER SECURITIES FOR SAFE AND PROFITABLE INVESTMENTS AT LOW RATES.

FOR SALE BY ALBERT H. NICOLAY, BANKER, STOCKBROKER AND AUCTIONEER, NO. 43 PINE-ST.

N. B.—FIRST-CLASS INVESTMENT SECURITIES, PAYING LARGE RATES OF INTEREST, A SPECIALTY WITH THIS HOUSE FOR MANY YEARS.

VERMILYE & CO. BANKERS, 16 and 18 Nassau-st., New-York.

DEALERS IN ALL ISSUES OF GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

BUY AND SELL ON COMMISSION RAILWAY STOCKS, BONDS AND GOLD.

MAKING LIBERAL ADVANCES.

INTEREST ON DEPOSITS.

BANKING HOUSE OF Geo. Opdyke & Co 25 NASSAU ST CORNER OF CEDAR ST.

FOUR PER CENT. interest allowed on current accounts, subject to check at sight.

PRIME INVESTMENTS for trust and other funds always on hand.

INVESTMENT ORDERS promptly executed for Governments, Gold, Bonds and other Securities.

COLLECTIONS WANTED ON CHICAGO, KEOKUK, DES MOINES, IOWA CITY, ST. JOSEPH, and other points in the Western States.

OFFICE OF THE IRVING FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 9 WALL-ST.

AT AN ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS, held on Monday, Dec. 5, 1870, the following-named gentlemen were duly elected for the ensuing year:

MASON THOMSON,	CHAS. BURKHALTER,
VANDERBILT L. BUXTON,	JOHN NASH,
	JOSEPH ROGERS,
BENJAMIN J. HART,	STEPHEN WRAY,
JOHN ROMER,	ISAAC ODELL,
SYLVANUS S. WARD,	BELA S. SQUIRE,
ALEXANDER MCKENZIE,	JOHN W. DEGRAUW,
	JOHN WADSWORTH,
JOHN B. HOBBY,	ROBERT A FORSYTH,
CHARLES STIRLING,	WINFIELD S. HANFORD,
JOHN CASTREE,	
WRIGHT GILLIES,	JOSEPH MEEKS,
DAVID B. MOSES,	WILLIAM FERDON,
MARTIN L. CROWELL.	

At a subsequent meeting of the Board of Directors, MARTIN L. CROWELL, Esq., was unanimously reelected President. JAMES M. WILSON, Secretary.

CLEVELAND, COLUMBUS, CINCINNATI AND INDIANAPOLIS RAILWAY COMPANY, CLEVELAND, Dec. 2?, 1870.

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE STOCKholders of this Company will be held at the office of the Company, in Cleveland, Ohio, on WEDNESDAY, Jan. 25, 1871, between the hours of 10 o'clock A. M. and 2 o'clock P. M., to vote upon a proposition to aid in the construction of and leasing a line of railroad between Springfield and Cincinnati, Ohio, and upon a contract with the Cincinnati, Sandusky and Cleveland Railroad Company for running, and business arrangements.

The transfer-books will be closed on the evening of Jan. 14, and re-opened Feb. 2, 1871.

By order of the Board of Directors. GEO. H. RUSSELL, Secretary.

CLEVELAND AND PITTSBURG RAILROAD COMPANY, OFFICE OF SECRETARY AND TREASURER, CLEVELAND, Ohio, Nov. 25, 1870.

ANNUAL MEETING.—THE ANNUAL meeting of the stockholders of the Cleveland and Pittsburg Railroad, for the election of Directors for the ensuing year, and for the transaction of such other business as may come before them, will be held at the office of the Company in Cleveland, Ohio, at 10 o'clock A. M. on WEDNESDAY, Jan. 4, 1871.

The transfer-books will be closed on SATURDAY, Dec. 3, 1870, and reopened on THURSDAY, Jan. 5, 1871. G. A. INGERSOLL, Secretary.

OFFICE METROPOLITAN GAS-LIGHT CO., BROADWAY, CORNER 42D-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 24, 1870.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE Stockholders of the Metropolitan Gas-light Company for election of Directors will be held on MONDAY, Jan. 9, 1871, at this office. Poll open from 12 M. to 2 P. M.

The transfer-book will be closed from the evening of Dec. 24, 1870, to the morning of Jan. 10, 1871. WM. MEIKLEHAM, Secretary.

NEW-YORK AND HARLEM RAILROAD COMPANY, TREASURER'S OFFICE, CORNER OF 4TH-AV. AND 26TH-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 6, 1870.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF this Company have declared a dividend of Four per Cent. on the preferred and common stocks, free of Government tax, payable on the 31st day of December, 1870, at this office. The transfer-books will be closed at 2 P. M. Dec. 19, 1870, and opened at 10 A. M. on 4th day of January, 1871. C. VANDERBILT, Jr., Treasurer.

FOURTH NATIONAL BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 10, 1870.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE stockholders of this Bank for the election of Directors for the ensuing year, and Inspectors of the succeeding election, will be held at their banking-house on TUESDAY, the 10th of January, 1871, between the hours of 12 M. and 1 P. M. The transfer-books will be closed from Jan. 6 to 11, inclusive. ANTHONY LANE, Cashier.

MERCANTILE NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 9, 1870.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this Bank will be held at the banking-house, corner of Broadway and Dey-st., on TUESDAY, the 10th day of January next, between the hours of 12 o'clock M. and 1 o'clock P. M. N. AMERMAN, Cashier.

THE OCEAN NATIONAL BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 10, 1870.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this Bank for the ensuing year will be held at their banking-rooms, corner of Broadway and Barclay-st., on TUESDAY, the 10th of January next. Polls open from 12 o'clock to 1 P. M. J. S. HARTSHORNE, Cashier.

MECHANICS' NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 9, 1870.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this Bank will be held at the banking-house on TUESDAY, the 10th day of January next. The poll will open at 12 M. and close at 1 o'clock P. M. WM. H. COX, Cashier.

EIGHTH NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 10, 1870.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this Bank will be held at the banking-house, No. 650 Broadway, on TUESDAY, the 10th of January next, between the hours of 12 M. and 1 P. M. CHAS. HUDSON, Cashier.

NINTH NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 10, 1870.

THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS of this Bank will be held at the banking-rooms, Nos. 407 and 409 Broadway, on TUESDAY, Jan. 10, 1871, between the hours of 12 M. and 2 P. M. JOHN T. HILL, Cashier.

DIVIDENDS.

PHILADELPHIA AND READING RAILROAD COMPANY, OFFICE NO. 227 SOUTH 4TH-ST., PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 30, 1870.

DIVIDEND NOTICE.

The transfer-books of this Company will be closed on WEDNESDAY, the 14th of December next, and reopened on TUESDAY, the 10th of January, 1871.

A Dividend of Five per Cent. has been declared on the Preferred and Common Stock, clear of State tax, payable in cash on the 27th of December next to the holders thereof, as they shall stand registered on the books of the Company at the close of business on the 14th of December. All payable at this office.

All orders for dividends must be witnessed and stamped. S. BRADFORD, Treasurer.

HARTFORD AND NEW-HAVEN RAILROAD OFFICE, HARTFORD, Dec. 20, 1870.

NOTICE.

A Quarterly Dividend of $3 on each share of full stock, and $1 50 on each share scrip stock, standing on the books the 23d inst., has been declared by the Board of Directors of the Hartford and New-Haven Railroad Company, payable on Friday, the 30th day of December.

Stockholders in New-York will receive their dividend at the Union National Bank.

The transfer-books will be closed from the 24th to the 30th of December, both days inclusive. S. P. CONNER, Secretary.

OFFICE CHICAGO AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY, No. 52 Wall-st., NEW-YORK, Nov. 28, 1870.

A DIVIDEND HAS BEEN DECLARED on the capital stock of this Company, Five (5) per Cent. on the common stock, and Five (5) per Cent. on the preferred stock, both free of Government tax, payable, on and after the 30th day of December next, to the stockholders, as shown by the books of the Company, on the 10th day of December next.

The transfer-books of the preferred and common stocks will be closed on SATURDAY, Dec. 10, 1870, at 3 P. M., and reopened on SATURDAY, Dec. 31, 1870, at 10 o'clock A. M. A. L. PRITCHARD, Treasurer.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, TREASURY DEPARTMENT, COLUMBIA, S. C., Dec. 2, 1870.

THE INTEREST MATURING JAN. 1, 1871, on the bonds of the State of South Carolina will be paid in gold, on demand, on and after Jan. 1, at the banking-house of H. H. KIMPTON, No. 9 Nassau-st., New-York, and at the Treasury Office in Columbia, S. C. The interest on the registered stock of the State will be paid in Columbia only.

NILES G. PARKER, Treasurer State South Carolina.

Coupons will be received for examination on and after the 27th inst. H. H. KIMPTON, Financial Agent State South Carolina.

OFFICE CENTRAL PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY, No. 54 WILLIAM-ST., New-York, Dec. 15, 1870.

THE COUPONS OF THE FIRST Mortgage Bonds of the Central Pacific Railroad Company, the Western Pacific Railroad Company, and the California and Oregon Railroad Company, due Jan. 1, 1871, will be paid, free of Government tax, at the office of FISK & HATCH, Bankers, No. 5 Nassau-st. Schedules of twenty or more coupons will be received for examination on and after the 28th inst. C. P. HUNTINGTON, Vice-President Central Pacific Railroad Co.

OFFICE OF THE CHICAGO, ROCK ISLAND AND PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY, No. 13 William-st.

IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE examination and payment of the interest on the bonds of this Company, due Jan. 1, 1871, holders are notified that by sending their coupons to the Treasurer's office, at any time prior to the 30th inst., they will be furnished with receipts for the same, and checks will be given for the amounts, less United States tax, on the afternoon of SATURDAY, the 31st inst., after 12 o'clock M. F. H. TOWS, Treasurer.

NORWICH AND WORCESTER RAILROAD COMPANY, TREASURER'S OFFICE, NORWICH, Conn., Dec. 20, 1870.

DIVIDEND—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS of this Company have this day declared a Dividend of Five per Cent., payable on the 31st inst., at the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company's office, No. 26 Exchange-place, New-York, to the stockholders whose names are on the stock ledger on the 23d inst.

Transfer-books will be closed from the 23d inst. to the 12th of January next. G. S. PERKINS, Treasurer.

OFFICE OF THE MARYLAND COAL COMPANY, No. 12 TRINITY BUILDING, NEW-YORK, Dec. 13, 1870.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF this Company have this day declared a Dividend of Three per Cent. on the capital stock, payable on and after Dec. 30, 1870.

The transfer-books will be closed from Dec. 20 to 30 inclusive.

By order of the Board. HARRY E. HOY, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE PANAMA RAILROAD COMPANY, TONTINE BUILDINGS, NO. 88 WALL-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 24, 1870.

FIFTY-FOURTH DIVIDEND.—THE Board of Directors have this day declared a Semi-annual Dividend of THREE (3) PER CENT., payable to the stockholders, or their legal representatives, on and after the 5th of January next.

Transfer-books will be closed at 3 P. M. on the 27th inst., and reopened on the morning of the 9th prox. HENRY SMITH, Treasurer.

NAUGATUCK RAILROAD COMPANY, TREASURER'S OFFICE, CORNER MAIN-ST. AND SOUTH-AV., BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Dec. 21, 1870.

DIVIDEND NO 31.—A DIVIDEND OF Five (5) per Cent. has this day been declared on the capital stock of this Company, payable on the 31st instant.

The transfer-books are closed, and will remain closed until and including the 3d day of January, 1871. H. NICHOLS, Treasurer.

MILWAUKEE AND ST. PAUL RAILWAY COMPANY.—The Directors of this Company have declared a Dividend of $7 per share on the preferred stock, payable in money on Dec. 31, 1870, and $7 per share on the common stock, payable in common stock on Dec. 31, 1870; upon condition that the stockholders authorize the issue of the necessary amount of stock.

The transfer-books will be closed Dec. 15, at 2 P. M., and reopened Jan. 5, 1871, at 10 A. M. JAMES M. MCKINLAY, Transfer Agent.

THE COUPONS OF THE NEW-YORK and Oswego Midland Railroad First Mortgage Seven per Cent. Gold Bonds, due Jan. 1, 1871, will be paid on and after that date on presentation at the banking-house of GEORGE OPDYKE & CO., No. 25 Nassau-st., New-York.

The transfer-books of the registered bonds will close on the 24th inst., and reopen on Jan. 3, 1871. D. C. LITTLEJOHN, President.

OSWEGO, Dec. 16, 1870.

UNION TRUST COMPANY OF NEW-YORK, NO. 73 BROADWAY, CORNER OF RECTOR-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1870.

THIS COMPANY HAS DECLARED A Dividend of Five per Cent., free of Government tax, payable on the 31st inst.

The transfer-books will close on the 28th inst. and remain closed until the 3d of January next. C. T. CARLTON, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE HAMILTON FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 11 Wall-st., NEW-YORK, Dec. 14, 1870.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE THIS DAY declared their regular Semi-annual Dividend of FIVE (5) PER CENT., free of tax, out of the earnings of the last six months, payable on or after Dec. 31, 1870. JAMES GILMORE, Secretary.

COUPONS OF THE EAST TENNESSEE, Virginia and Georgia Railroad Company, due 1st January, will be paid on and after that date as follows:

First mortgage seven per cent. coupons, paid at the Gallatin National Bank.

The six per cent. coupons, at the office of R. T. WILSON & CO., No. 44 Broad-st., New-York. R. T. WILSON, President.

DELAWARE, LACKAWANNA AND WESTERN RAILROAD CO., NO. 26 EXCHANGE-PLACE, NEW-YORK, Dec. 16, 1870.

THIS COMPANY HAS DECLARED a dividend of Six per Cent., payable on 31st December inst., in stock of Morris and Essex Railroad Company.

Transfer-books will be closed until morning of Jan. 3. A. J. ODELL, Treasurer.

HANOVER NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 14, 1870.

DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS have this day declared a Semi-annual Dividend of FOUR per Cent., payable on the 31st day of December instant.

The transfer-book will be closed from the 21st to the 31st instant. JNO. T. BANKER, Cashier.

CORN EXCHANGE BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1870.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared a dividend of Five (5) per Cent., payable Dec. 30 inst.

The transfer-books will be closed on the 20th inst., and reopen on the 31st inst. By order. W. A. FALLS, Cashier.

MERCHANTS' NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1870.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared a semi-annual Dividend of Four per Cent., from the earnings of the current six months, payable on the 30th inst.

The transfer-books will remain closed until Jan. 3, 1871. J. D. VERMILYE, President.

MANUFACTURERS' AND MERCHANTS' BANK, NOS. 561 AND 563 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1870.

THE DIRECTORS HAVE THIS DAY declared a Dividend of Four per Cent., free of all taxes, payable Dec. 31—until when the transfer-books will be closed. THEO. D. WARREN, Cashier.

STATE OF MICHIGAN, STATE TREASURER'S OFFICE, LANSING, Dec. 26, 1870.

THE INTEREST DUE JAN. 1, 1871, on the bonds issued by the State of Michigan will be paid at the Mercantile National Bank in the City of New-York. E. O. GROSVENOR, State Treasurer.

PHENIX NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 24, 1870.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF this Bank have this day declared a Dividend of FOUR (4) PER CENT., free from tax, payable Dec. 30, 1870.

The transfer-books will be closed from this date until Jan. 3, 1871. JOHN PARKER, Cashier.

THE MARKET NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 16, 1870.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared a Semi-annual Dividend of Five (5) per Cent. from the earnings of the current six months, payable to stockholders on the 31st inst.

The transfer-books will remain closed from date to Jan. 3, 1870. A. GILBERT, Cashier.

THE NATIONAL PARK BANK OF NEW-YORK, Dec. 16, 1870.

THE DIRECTORS OF THIS BANK have THIS DAY declared a Dividend of SIX (6) PER CENT., payable on the 27th of December, 1870.

The transfer-books will remain closed until the 3d of January, 1871. J. L. WORTH, Cashier.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1870.

ELEVENTH WARD BANK.—THE Directors of this Bank have declared a Semi-annual Dividend of Three (3) per Cent., free of all tax, payable on and after the 30th instant. CHARLES E. BROWN, Cashier.

THE NATIONAL CITIZENS' BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1870.

A DIVIDEND OF FIVE (5) PER CENT. has been declared, payable 31st inst. The transfer-books will remain closed until 3d day of January, 1871. W. H. OAKLEY, Cashier.

EAST RIVER NATIONAL BANK DIVIDEND.—A Dividend of Four (4) per Cent., free from all taxes, has been declared from the profits of the last six months, payable Jan. 3, 1871. Z. E. NEWELL, Cashier.

DIVIDENDS.

ROME, WATERTOWN AND OGDENSBURG RAILROAD, VICE-PRESIDENT'S OFFICE, NO. 136 CHAMBERS-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1870.

DIVIDEND NOTICE.—THIS COMPANY will pay a semi-annual dividend of FOUR PER CENT., on and after the 31st inst., to stockholders of record at this date. Transfer-books will remain closed till the 3d of May.

Stock registered in New-York will be paid at the Mercantile National Bank for a period of sixty days, and thereafter only at the Company's office, Watertown, N. Y. MARCELLUS MASSEY, Vice-President.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE AMERICAN MERCHANTS' UNION EXPRESS CO., NO. 113 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1870.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF this Company have declared a Dividend of Three Dollars per share, payable on and after the 16th day of January next.

The transfer-books will be closed at 3 o'clock P. M. on the 28th day of December, and reopened at 10 o'clock A. M. on the 17th day of January next. JAMES C. FARGO, Assistant Treasurer.

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE OF THE RONDOUT AND OSWEGO RAILROAD COMPANY, RONDOUT, N. Y., Dec. 12, 1870.

THE COUPONS DUE JAN. 1, 1871, on the First Mortgage Bonds of the Rondout and Oswego Railroad Company will be paid on presentation at the office of Farmers' Loan and Trust Company, in the City of New-York, on and after the 2d day of January, 1871. JOHN C. BRODHEAD, President.

UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY, BOSTON, Dec. 16, 1870.

THE COUPONS OF THE FIRST Mortgage Bonds of the Union Pacific Railroad Company, due Jan. 1, 1871, will be paid in gold, free of Government tax, on and after that date, at the office of the Company in Boston and at the banking-house of Morton, Bliss & Co., New-York. Schedules of coupons will be received for examination on and after the 26th inst. JOHN M. S. WILLIAMS, Treasurer.

OFFICE OF LAWRENCE BROS. & CO., NO. 16 WALL-ST.

THE INTEREST COUPONS MATURing on the 1st day of January next on the First Mortgage Bonds of the Cleveland, Mount Vernon and Delaware Railroad Company will be paid in gold at the Office of LAWRENCE BROS. & CO., Bankers No. 16 Wall-st., on and after that date. R. C. HURD, President

NEW-YORK, Dec. 15, 1870.

BANK OF AMERICA, NEW-YORK, Dec. 16, 1870.

THE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTORS of the Bank of America have this day declared a Dividend of Five per Cent. for the current six months, free from tax, payable to the stockholders on and after Friday, Dec. 30, 1870.

The transfer-books will remain closed from this date until the morning of Jan. 3, 1871. ROBERT JAFFRAY, Cashier.

OFFICE OF THE SPRING MOUNTAIN COAL COMPANY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1870.

DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS have this day declared a dividend of SIX PER CENT., payable on and after Dec. 31, 1870.

The transfer-books will be closed from Dec 23 to 31st instant, both days inclusive. CHARLES RUNYON, Secretary and Treasurer.

IRVING NATIONAL BANK, GREENWICH-ST., CORNER WARREN, NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1870.

A DIVIDEND OF FOUR PER CENT., free of tax, has this day been declared, payable on the 31st inst.

The transfer-books will remain closed until Jan. 3, 1871. J. L. JEWETT, JR., Cashier.

THE BANK OF NEW-YORK NATIONAL BANKING ASSOCIATION, NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1870.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared a Dividend of Five (5) per Cent., free of tax, payable on and after 30th December next. The transfer-books will be closed until 5th January, 1871. W. B. MEEKER, Cashier.

NATIONAL BUTCHERS' AND DROVERS' BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1870.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared a Dividend of Five per Cent. from the earnings of the current six months, payable on the 30th inst.

The transfer-books will remain closed until the 3d proximo. G. G. BRINKERHOFF, Cashier.

MECHANICS' NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1870.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared a Dividend of Five per Cent., free of tax, payable to the stockholders on the 31st inst. The transfer-book will be closed from this date until Jan. 3, 1871. WM. H. COX, Cashier.

OFFICE OF THE HOUSTON AND TEXAS CENTRAL RAILWAY COMPANY, No. 52 WALL-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1870.

THE COUPONS OF THE FIRST MORTgage 7 per cent. Gold Bonds of this Company, due Jan. 1, 1871, will be paid on and after that date at the National City Bank, New-York. C. ENNIS, Controller.

JOS. U. ORVIS, President. BENJ. H. DEWEY, Cashier.

THE SECURITY BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, NO. 319 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1870.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared the first Semi-annual Dividend of Four per Cent., payable Dec. 31. BENJ. H. DEWEY, Cashier.

THE IMPORTERS' & TRADERS' NATIONAL BANK OF NEW-YORK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 17, 1870.

A DIVIDEND OF SIX PER CENT., out of the earnings of the past six months, free of all tax, has this day been declared by this bank, payable on the 31st inst.

The transfer-books will remain closed until the 3d proximo. E. H. PERKINS, JR., Cashier.

THE CHATHAM NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 21, 1870.

THIRTIETH DIVIDEND.—THE Directors of this Bank have this day declared a dividend of Eight (8) per Cent. out of the earnings of the past six months, free of all tax, payable on and after the 30th inst. The transfer-books will remain closed until Jan. 3, 1871. GEO. M. HARD, Cashier.

FOURTH NATIONAL BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 15, 1870.

A DIVIDEND OF FOUR PER CENT., free of all tax, has been this day declared, payable 30th inst. The transfer-books will close 24th inst., P. M., and open Jan. 3, A. M. ANTHONY LANE, Cashier.

NATIONAL BROADWAY BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 17, 1870.

FORTY-SECOND DIVIDEND.—A Semi-annual Dividend of Three Dollars per share on the capital stock of this bank, will be paid on, and after the 27th day of December, inst. J. L. EVERITT, Cashier.

ATLANTIC NATIONAL BANK, NO. 142 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1870.

DIVIDEND.—THE DIRECTORS OF THE Atlantic National Bank have this day declared a Semi-annual Dividend of Four (4) per Cent., free of all tax, payable on Friday, the 30th instant. The transfer-books will be closed from Dec. 21 until Jan. 3, 1871. F. L. TAINTOR, Cashier.

METROPOLITAN NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 6, 1870.

DIVIDEND.—THE DIRECTORS OF THE Metropolitan National Bank have this day declared a Dividend of 5 (five) per Cent., free of tax, payable 30th inst.

The transfer-books will be closed on 24th inst. GEORGE I. SENEY, Cashier.

DIVIDEND.—PEOPLE'S BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK.—A Dividend of Five (5) per Cent. has this day been declared, payable to the stockholders on the 30th inst. The transfer-books are closed from this date until Jan. 3, 1871. By order of the Board of Directors. GEORGE M. ZABRISKIE, Cashier.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1870.

WEST WISCONSIN RAILROAD COMPANY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 22, 1870.

THE COUPONS OF THE WEST Wisconsin Railroad Land Grand Bonds, payable in New-York, and due 1st January, 1871, will be paid on and after that date, on presentation at the banking office of White, Morris & Co., No. 29 Wall-st. WM. J. OSBORN, Treasurer.

MERCHANTS' EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK, OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, Dec. 17, 1870.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared a dividend of Three per Cent., free of tax, payable on the 31st of December, 1870. The transfer-books will be closed from the 20th inst. to Jan. 3, 1871. A. S. APGAR, Cashier.

THE NASSAU FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, NOS. 28 AND 30 COURT-ST., BROOKLYN, Dec. 20, 1870.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF this Company have THIS DAY declared a semi-annual Dividend of Ten per cent. payable Dec. 27, 1870. WILLIAM T. LANE, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE STUYVESANT FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, NOS. 122 BOWERY and 200 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1870.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF this Company have declared a Dividend of Five per Cent., payable on and after the 27th inst. WM. F. LEGGETT, Secretary.

THE SOUTH AND NORTH ALABAMA RAILROAD COMPANY interest coupons, maturing Jan. 1, 1871, will be paid IN GOLD, at the Importers' and Traders' National Bank on and after that date. V. K. STEVENSON & SON, Financial Agents.

GROCERS' BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 19, 1870.

THE DIRECTORS OF THIS BANK have declared a Dividend of Five per Cent., payable to the stockholders, on the 30th inst. SAMUEL B. WHITE, Cashier.

THE NASHVILLE AND CHATTANOOGA RAILROAD COMPANY interest coupons, maturing Jan. 1, 1871, will be paid at the Importers' and Traders' National Bank on and after that date. V. K. STEVENSON & SON, Financial Agents.

THE ORIENTAL BANK.—A DIVIDEND of Six per Cent., from the earnings of the past six months, has this day been declared, payable on FRIDAY, Dec. 30, inst.

The transfer-books will remain closed until that date. HENRY T. CHAPMAN, JR., Cashier.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 17, 1870.

SECOND NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 24, 1870.

A DIVIDEND OF FIVE PER CENT. has been declared this day, payable on and after the 30th December. O. D. ROBERTS, Cashier.

ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC RAILROAD.—The semi-annual coupons of these bonds will be paid on and after THURSDAY, Dec. 29, in gold, at the National Shoe and Leather Bank, in New-York, or at the Company's office in Boston. WM. A. HAYES, Treasurer.

SOUTH PACIFIC RAILROAD OF MISSOURI.—The semi-annual coupons of these bonds will be paid on or after THURSDAY, Dec. 29, in gold, free of tax, at the National Shoe and Leather Bank, in New-York, or at the Company's office in Boston. WM. A. HAYES, Treasurer.

TRADESMEN'S NATIONAL BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 23, 1870.

A DIVIDEND OF SIX PER CENT., free of tax, has been declared payable Dec. 31. ANTHONY HALSEY, Cashier.

NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE IN NEW-YORK.—DIVIDEND.—A semi-annual dividend of Four (4) per Cent. on the capital stock of this Bank has been declared, payable on Dec. 30. H. F. VAIL, Cashier.

SHIPPING.

THE ANCHOR LINE OF STEAMERS

Sail every SATURDAY and alternate WEDNESDAY to and from Glasgow and Derry. Passengers booked and forwarded to and from all railway stations in Great Britain, Ireland, Germany, Norway, Sweden or Denmark, to America, as safely, speedily, comfortably and cheaply as by any other route or line.

"EXPRESS" STEAMERS.		"EXTRA" STEAMERS.	
Caledonia....Sat., Dec. 31		Tyrian.....Wed., Dec. 28	
Anglia.....Sat., Jan. 7		Britannia...Wed., Jan. 11	
Australia....Sat., Jan. 14		Iowa.....Wed., Jan. 25	
India.....Sat., Jan. 21		Tyrian.....Wed., Feb. 8	
Columbia.....Sat., Jan. 28		Britannia....Wed., Feb. 22	
Europa.....Sat., Feb. 8		Iowa.....Wed., March 8	

and every SATURDAY and alternate WEDNESDAY thereafter, from Pier No. 20 North River, New-York, at noon.

RATES OF PASSAGE, PAYABLE IN CURRENCY, TO LIVERPOOL, GLASGOW, OR DERRY:

First Cabin $85 and $75, according to location.

Cabin excursion tickets, good for 12 months securing best accommodations, $130.

Intermediate, $33; Steerage, $28.

Certificates, at REDUCED RATES, can be bought here by those wishing to send for their friends.

Drafts issued, payable on presentation.

Apply at the Company's offices to

HENDERSON BROTHERS, No. 7 Bowling-green.

CUNARD LINE.

THE BRITISH AND NORTH AMERICAN ROYAL MAIL STEAM-SHIPS, BETWEEN NEW-YORK AND LIVERPOOL, CALLING AT CORK HARBOR.

Russia, Wednes., Dec. 28 | Abyssinia, Wednes., Jan. 18
Palmyra, Thurs., Dec. 29 | via Halifax.
Parthia, Wednes., Jan. 4 | Siberia, Thursday, Jan. 19
Samaria, Thursday, Jan. 5 | Cuba, Wednesday, Jan. 25
Algeria, Wednes., Jan. 11 | Aleppo, Thursday, Jan. 26
Calabria, Thurs., Jan. 12

RATES OF PASSAGE.

By the Wednesday steamers, not carrying Steerage: First Cabin, $130, gold. Second Cabin, $80, gold.

First Cabin to Paris.....$145, gold.

By the Thursday steamers:

First Cabin, $80, gold. Steerage, $30, currency.

Steerage tickets from Liverpool and Queenstown and all parts of Europe at lowest rates.

Through Bills of Lading given for Belfast, Glasgow, Havre, Antwerp and other ports on the Continent, and for Mediterranean ports.

For freight and cabin passage apply at the Company's Office, No. 4 Bowling-green.

For steerage passage at No. 111 Broadway, Trinity Building. CHAS. G. FRANCKLYN, Agent.

INMAN LINE FOR QUEENSTOWN AND LIVERPOOL.

Royal Mail Steamers are appointed to sail as follows:

CITY OF CORK, (via Halifax,) Tuesday, Dec. 27, 9 A. M.
CITY OF BROOKLYN...Saturday, Dec. 31, 1 P. M.
CITY OF BRUSSELS....Saturday, Jan. 7, 7 A. M.
CITY OF LIMERICK, (via Halifax,) Tuesday, Jan. 10.

And each succeeding SATURDAY and alternate TUESDAY, from Pier No. 45 North River.

RATES OF PASSAGE.

PAYABLE IN GOLD.		PAYABLE IN CURRENCY.	
1st Cabin.....	$75	Steerage.....	$30
To London.....	80	To London.....	35
To Halifax, N. S.....	20	To Halifax, N. S.....	15

Passengers also forwarded to Antwerp, Rotterdam, Sweden, Norway, and Denmark, at reduced rates.

Tickets can be bought here at moderate rates by persons wishing to send for their friends.

For further information apply at the Company's Office. JOHN G. DALE, Agent, No. 15 Broadway, New-York.

FOR LIVERPOOL,

(VIA QUEENSTOWN,)

CARRYING THE UNITED STATES MAILS.

THE LIVERPOOL AND GREAT WESTERN STEAM COMPANY will dispatch one of their first-class full-power iron-screw steam-ships from PIER NO. 46 NORTH RIVER, EVERY WEDNESDAY as follows:

NEVADA, Capt. GREEN.....Dec. 28, at 10½ A. M.
COLORADO, Capt. T. F. FREEMAN. Jan. 4, at 2½ P. M.
WISCONSIN, Capt. WILLIAMS...Jan. 11, at 9 A. M.
MANHATTAN, Capt. FORSYTH. Jan. 18, at 2½ P. M.
MINNESOTA, Capt. J. W. FERMAN, Jan. 25, at 9 A. M.
IDAHO, Capt. PRICE.....Feb. 1, at 2½ P. M.

Cabin passage, $80, gold.

Steerage passage, (Office No. 29 Broadway,) $30, currency.

For freight or cabin passage apply to WILLIAMS & GUION, No. 62 Wall-st.

NATIONAL LINE.

STEAM TO LIVERPOOL AND QUEENSTOWN, From Pier No. 47 North River

PENNSYLVANIA, LAWSON, Saturday, Dec. 31, at 12 M.

HELVETIA, GRICE, Saturday, Jan. 7.

Passage to Liverpool or Queenstown: Cabin, $75 and $65, currency: steerage, $28 currency.

Prepaid steerage tickets from Liverpool, Queenstown, Londonderry and Glasgow, $32 currency.

For further particulars apply at the Company's office, No. 69 Broadway.

F. W. J. HURST, Manager.

ONLY DIRECT LINE TO FRANCE.

THE GENERAL TRANSATLANTIC COMPANY'S MAIL STEAM-SHIPS BETWEEN NEW-YORK AND HAVRE, CALLING AT BREST.

LAFAYETTE.....ROUSSAU...SATURDAY, Dec. 31
VILLE DE PARIS. SURMONT...SATURDAY, Jan. 28

For freight or passage apply to GEO. MACKENZIE, Agent, No. 58 Broadway.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAM-SHIP COMPANY'S THROUGH LINE TO

CALIFORNIA AND CHINA.

FREIGHT AND PASSAGE GREATLY REDUCED.

Through rates, New-York to San Francisco:

First Class.	Steerage.
$125 to $170.	$60.

according to the location of berth.

These rates include berths, board and all necessaries for the trip.

Steamers of the above line leave Pier No. 42 North River, foot of Canal-st., at 12 o'clock noon

ON THE 5TH AND 20TH OF EACH MONTH, except when those days fall on Sunday, then the day previous.

One hundred pounds of baggage free to each adult. Medicines and attendance free.

JAN. 4, OCEANIC QUEEN, Capt. CONNER, connecting with COLORADO, Capt. PARKER.

Departure of 20th every month will touch at San Jose Guatemala.

Steamer AMERICA will leave San Francisco Feb. 1, 1871, for China and Japan.

All freight for San Francisco will go fast, and be received until 4 P. M. Tuesday, Jan. 3.

Freight for Central American and South Pacific ports will be received until 4 P. M. on Saturday, Dec. 31, 1870, only. All the usual facilities afforded shippers in collecting inland charges, &c.

For freight or passage tickets, and all further information, apply at the office, Pier No. 42 North River.

F. B. BABY, Agent.

FOR ST. THOMAS AND BRAZIL.

UNITED STATES AND BRAZIL STEAM-SHIP COMPANY.

REGULAR MAIL STEAMERS sailing on the 22d of every month:

NORTH AMERICA, Capt. G. B. SLOCUM, Dec. 22.
MERRIMACK, Capt. WIER, Jan. 23.
SOUTH AMERICA, Capt. E. L. TINKHAPAUGH, Feb. 22.

These splendid steamers sail on schedule time, and call at St. Thomas, Para, Fernambuco, Bahia and Rio de Janeiro, going and returning. For engagements of freight or passage, apply to

WM. R. GARRISON, Agent, No. 5 Bowling-green, New-York

U. S. MAIL TO HAVANA.

ATLANTIC MAIL STEAM-SHIP COMPANY, sailing regularly every THURSDAY at 3 o'clock P. M. precisely, from Pier No. 4 North River.

MORGANZILE, Capt. R. ADAMS, (via Nassau) Dec. 29
COLUMBIA, Capt. E. VAN SICE.....Jan. 5
MISSOURI, Capt. J. B. EDWARDS, (via Nassau) Jan. 12

For freight or passage apply to A. W. DIMOCK, President, No. 5 Bowling-green.

FOR NASSAU, N. P.,

CARRYING THE ROYAL MAILS.

Atlantic Mail Steam-ship Company's steamer COLUMBIA, Capt. E. VAN SICE, will sail Dec. 15, at 3 P. M., from Pier No. 4 North River.

For freight or passage apply to A. W. DIMOCK, President, No. 5 Bowling-green.

HAVANA, SISAL AND VERA CRUZ.—New-York and Mexican Mail Steam-ship Line, leaving Pier No. 17 East River, at 3 P. M.

CLEOPATRA, Phillips.....Thursday, Dec. 29.
CITY OF MEXICO, Timmerman....Saturday, Jan. 7.
CLEOPATRA, Phillips.....Wednesday, Jan. 18.
CITY OF MERIDA, Deakon.....Saturday, Jan. 28.

For freight or passage apply to F. ALEXANDRE & SONS, No. 38 Broadway.

Cleopatra goes to Havana only; takes no passengers.

FOR SAVANNAH, GA.,

THE FLORIDA PORTS,

AND THE SOUTH AND SOUTH-WEST.

GREAT SOUTHERN FREIGHT AND PASSENGER LINE,

CENTRAL RAILROAD OF GEORGIA AND ATLANTIC AND GULF RAILROAD.

FOUR STEAMERS A WEEK,

TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS AND SATURDAYS.

THE STEAM-SHIPS

LEO, Capt. DEARBORN, TUESDAY, Dec. 27, from Pier No. 16 East River, at 3 P. M.

MURRAY, FERRIS & CO., Agents, Nos. 61 and 62 South-st.

GENERAL BARNES, Capt. MALLORY, THURSDAY, Dec. 29, from Pier No. 36 North River, at 3 P. M.

LIVINGSTON, FOX & CO., Agents. No. 58 Liberty-st.

SAN JACINTO, Capt. ATKINS, SATURDAY, Dec. 31, from Pier No. 8 North River, at 3 P. M.

WM. R. GARRISON, Agent, No. 5 Bowling-green.

HUNTSVILLE, Capt. CROWELL, SATURDAY, Dec. 31, from Pier No. 13 North River, at 3 P. M.

R. LOWDEN, Agent, No. 93 West-st.

Insurance by this line ONE-HALF PERCENT.

Superior accommodations for passengers.

Through rates and bills of lading in connection with the Atlantic and Gulf Freight line.

Through rates and bills of lading in connection with Central Railroad of Georgia, to all points.

C. D. OWENS, Agent, A. & G. R. R., No. 229 Broadway. | GEORGE YONGE, Agent C. R. R., No. 409 Broadway.

NOTICE TO TRAVELERS.

Families or gentlemen going to travel on the Continent of Europe, who can afford the expense of a courier, should never leave Paris without one; their services are invaluable in relieving the traveler from the multiplicity of cares and troubles respecting passports, examination and conveyance of luggage, in securing the best accommodation, in protecting the traveler from imposition, and an infinity of annoyances to which they are exposed in various parts of the Continent. Competent and trustworthy couriers and traveling servants may always be obtained by applying to the COURIER SOCIETY, No. 3 Rue d'Alger, near the Tuileries Garden, Paris.

DELAWARE AND NEW-YORK S. S. CO., Pier No. 21 N. R.—The steamer *W. W. Coit* will leave for Lewes, Del., Monday and Thursday, at 4 P. M., taking freight for all points on the Junction and Breakwater and Delaware Railroads. Returning, leave Lewes Wednesdays and Saturdays at 4 P. M.

For freight and passage apply at office on pier.

SHIPPING.

SAN DOMINGO LINE

FOR PUERTO PLATA, SAMANA AND SAN DOMINGO CITY.

The United States mail steam-ship TYBEE, Capt. E. A. DELANOY, will leave Pier No. 4 North River, for the above ports, on SATURDAY, Dec. 31, at 3 o'clock P. M.

For freight or passage apply to SPOFFORD BROTHERS & CO., No. 29 Broadway.

UNITED STATES PASSPORT BUREAU.—United States passports, indispensable to travelers, issued by J. B. NONES, Passport Agent, No. 306 Broadway.

DRY GOODS.

GENUINE FURS.

ARNOLD, CONSTABLE & CO.

Will offer, during the season, SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS in

LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S FURS.
SABLE, MINK, ERMINE,
SEAL AND
ASTRAKHAN CLOAKS,
CARRIAGE ROBES,
FUR TRIMMINGS, &c., &c.,
AT THE LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICES.

BROADWAY, CORNER 19TH-ST.

CHEAP SILKS FOR HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

ARNOLD, CONSTABLE & CO.

Are now offering

FANCY STRIPED POULT DE SOIES at 75c. and $1 per yard; former price $1 25 and $1 75.

PLAIN AND CORDED CHANGEABLE SILKS.

PARIS QUALITY, RICH HIGH LUSTRE, AT $1 25 PER YARD, (value $2 25.)

ALSO,

A fine assortment of PLAIN, COLORED, FANCY, FIGURED and BLACK SILKS, (Lyons manufacture,)

AT EQUALLY LOW PRICES.

BROADWAY, CORNER 19TH-ST.

GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING DEPARTMENT.

ARNOLD, CONSTABLE & CO. have now open a new and elegant line of LADIES' and GENTS' SCARFS AND TIES.

NEW SHAPES AND COLORS, SUITABLE FOR HOLIDAY GIFTS, &c.

A large and choice assortment of GENTLEMEN'S ROBES DE CHAMBRE AND BREAKFAST JACKETS, AT POPULAR PRICES.

SPECIALTY.

ROBES DE CHAMBRE, BREAKFAST JACKETS, SHIRTS, COLLARS AND CUFFS, made to order.

ALSO,

HOSIERY AND UNDER-GARMENTS, of every description.

BROADWAY, CORNER 19TH-ST.

LACES AND FRENCH EMBROIDERIES AT PANIC PRICES.

ARNOLD, CONSTABLE & CO. have now open a large and valuable stock of these goods at ABOUT ONE-HALF THE COST OF PRODUCTION, having been purchased of the manufacturers, at RUINOUS SACRIFICE IN CONSEQUENCE OF THE PRUSSIAN ADVANCE.

BROADWAY, CORNER 19TH-ST.

At Mrs. Gaynor's,

NO. 824 BROADWAY, CORNER 12TH-ST.

CORSETS A SPECIALTY.

Most elegant shapes and styles in Paris, Coutille and R. Werley's Woven Corsets, Children's Corsets, Waists, Shoulder Braces, Nursing Corsets, Abdominal Supporters, &c.

SKIRTS AND TOURNOURS.

In haircloth, all the latest novelties, including the graceful and elegant full dress reception skirts, the BRIDAL AND DUCHESSE TRAINS.

R. H. MACY.

The Balance of our Christmas Toys and Christmas Goods closing out at very low prices.

FOR NEW YEAR'S

A fine assortment of REAL LACE GOODS, FRENCH AND SCOTCH EMBROIDERIES, EMBROIDERED LINEN HANDKERCHIEFS, HOUSEKEEPING AND HOUSE-FURNISHING GOODS, BOOKS, FRENCH BONBON BOXES, &c., At popular prices.

R. H. MACY, 14th-st. and 6th-av.

BLACK VELVETEENS,

Silk Finish, from $1 to $2 50 per Yard, the Handsomest Goods in the Trade, at JACKSON'S,

Corner Waverley-place and Broadway.

NEW-YEAR'S PRESENTS.

A. T. STEWART & CO.,

in order to close out their present stock of DRESS GOODS,

prior to taking their semi-annual inventory,

HAVE MADE VERY LARGE REDUCTIONS IN PRICES.

RECENT PRICES. RECENT PRICES. VIZ.:

POPLINS, 25c. PER YARD; RECENT WHOLESALE PRICE, 35c.

PLAID POPLINS, HIGH COLORS, 35c. PER YARD; RECENT WHOLESALE PRICE, 50c.

EMPRESS CLOTH, 25c. PER YARD; RECENT WHOLESALE PRICE, 40c. AND 50c.

PLAID POPLINS, 54 INCHES WIDE, $1 25 PER YARD; RECENT WHOLESALE PRICE, $2 25.

SATINS DE CHINE, CLOTH COLORS, 60c. PER YARD; RECENT WHOLESALE PRICE, 85c.

THE ABOVE FORM ONLY A SMALL PORTION OF THE LARGE STOCK OFFERED, WHICH THEY WILL HAVE GREAT PLEASURE TO EXHIBIT TO THEIR FRIENDS, CUSTOMERS AND STRANGERS, WITHOUT ANY IMPORTUNITY TO PURCHASE.

BROADWAY, 4TH-AV., 9TH AND 10TH STS.

NEW-YEAR'S PRESENTS IN ALEXANDRE'S

AND OTHER VERY SUPERIOR MAKES OF GLOVES

WILL BE OFFERED, DURING THIS WEEK, AT GREATLY REDUCED PRICES.

A. T. STEWART & CO.,

BROADWAY, 4TH-AV., 9TH AND 10TH STS.

INDIA GOODS.—INDIA GOODS OF EVERY description, wholesale and retail. FOUNTAIN'S India store, No. 455 Broadway.

FURNITURE.

FURNITURE! FURNITURE!

CARPETS AND OIL-CLOTHS.

DEGRAAF AND TAYLOR,

NOS. 87 AND 89 BOWERY,

have the largest and best assorted stock in the City of

PARLOR, CHAMBER,

AND

DINING-ROOM FURNITURE,

which they will retail at wholesale prices for the next thirty days.

FURNITURE TAKEN ON STORAGE in the lofts No. 15 4th-av. Apply on the premises to CONKLINS & BAYLES.

PUBLIC NOTICES.

CITY OF NEW-YORK, DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, BUREAU OF THE RECEIVER OF TAXES, COURT-HOUSE, PARK, NO. 32 CHAMBERS-ST, Dec. 22, 1870.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO all persons who may have omitted to pay their taxes to pay the same at this office before the 1st day of January, 1871. On and after that date interest at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum, calculated from Oct. 6, 1870, to day of payment, will be added. On the 15th day of January, proximo, warrants will be issued for the collection of all personal taxes remaining unpaid on that date.

BERNARD SMYTH, Receiver.

MEDICAL

A PHYSIOLOGICAL VIEW OF MARRIAGE—Containing nearly 300 pages and 150 fine plates and engravings of the anatomy of the sexual organs, in a state of health and disease, with a treatise on self-abuse, its deplorable consequences upon the mind and body, with the author's plan of treatment—the only rational and successful mode of cure, as shown by the report of cases treated. A truthful adviser of the married and those contemplating marriage, who entertain doubts of their physical condition. Sent, free of postage, to any address on receipt of 25 cents, in specie or postage stamps. Address DR. LA CROIX, No. 24 Maiden-lane, Albany, N. Y.

SAVINGS BANKS.

EXCELSIOR SAVINGS BANK,

No. 868 6th-av. (Booth's Theatre.)

Interest at rate of Seven per cent. per annum will be paid on all sums remaining in B nk Jan. 1, 1871, that were deposited on or before July 20 and Oct. 20. Payable on and after the second Monday in January.

Also, an EXTRA DIVIDEND of One per cent on all sums of $1,000 and under, deposited before Aug. 1, 1869, remaining in Bank Jan. 1, 1871.

Money deposited now will draw interest from Jan. 1.

WILLIAM M. GILES, President.
H. K. THURBER, } Vice-Pres.
HUGH MURRAY, }

ISAAC S. BARRETT, Secretary.

Parties at a distance can send deposits by mail, and receive their books by return post.

IRVING SAVINGS INSTITUTION,

NO. 96 WARREN-ST., NEW-YORK,

SIX PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on all sums. Deposits made now will draw interest from Jan. 1. Bank open daily from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M.

WALTER W. CONCKLING, President

VANDERBILT L. BUXTON, Secretary.

A "CAPITAL" PRESENT FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

A BANK-BOOK, WITH A DEPOSIT IN THE MUTUAL BENEFIT SAVINGS BANK, SUN BUILDING, NO. 156 NASSAU-ST., N. Y.

IT MAY BE THE FOUNDATION OF A FUTURE OF COMFORT AND PROSPERITY. WHAT OTHER GIFT IS SO FULL OF PROMISE!

Interest commences every month.

Married women and minor children have exclusive control over their deposits.

Parents may accumulate a fund for their children, thus teaching them the habit of saving, and inculcating lessons of prudence and economy.

One dollar will open an account.

Money deposited now will draw interest from Jan. 1.

A semi-annual DIVIDEND, at the rate of Six per Cent. per annum, will be payable Jan. 21. Dividends not withdrawn receive interest the same as deposits.

CHARLES E. GRAHAM, President.

G. H. BENEDICT, Secretary.

THE SIXPENNY SAVINGS BANK,

ASTOR-PLACE.

This old savings institution, the pioneer in the enterprise of taking SMALL DEPOSITS, calls the attention of PARENTS, HUSBANDS, RELATIVES and EMPLOYERS to the subject of HOLIDAY PRESENTS, and recommends the presentation of a BANK BOOK, with a suitable deposit, as a truly beneficial and acceptable CHRISTMAS or NEW-YEAR'S GIFT. There is no class of institutions so well calculated to benefit all classes of society in a pecuniary way as savings banks, and none that impart to the people such sound and practical ideas of individual industry and economy as the surest path to wealth and independence. Let every one have a savings bank book, man, woman and child. Let all know the value of keeping a bank account, so that they may see how much they earn, how much they spend year after year. A bank book will teach your wives and daughters how to manage their own affairs. These are lessons that are taught without cost by a savings bank; their moral and material value is almost incalculable. Let, therefore, all who have good and faithful servants, who have poor relatives, those who have children; let every man who has a wife whom he loves and respects, procure a bank book with a suitable deposit, as the most useful and beneficial Christmas or New-Year's gift.

BANK OPEN DAILY FROM 10 A. M. TO 3 P. M.

Six per cent. interest, free of taxes. Deposits received from 5 cents to $5,000.

WM. MILES, President.

J. S. SLOAN, Secretary.

NATIONAL SAVINGS BANK.

THE FREEDMAN'S SAVINGS AND TRUST COMPANY,

(Chartered by the Government of the United States.)

No. 185 Bleecker-st.

DEPOSITS OVER $2,000,000.

INTEREST payable or compounded, free of all taxes, THREE TIMES in each year, or every thirty days, as depositors prefer. A speciality made of allowing interest from date of each deposit on sums of $20 and upward, so that time may not be idle for months as in most Banks, but may return an income promptly. Married women and children have exclusive control over their money deposited in the National Savings Bank. All accounts strictly private and confidential. Deposits can be sent by express. All deposits payable ON DEMAND, with interest due.

Especial advantages afforded to trustees, guardians and others, having in charge trust funds; also, to societies, lodges, divisions, associations, &c.

Open daily from 9 A. M. to 5 P. M., and MONDAYS and SATURDAYS from 9 A. M. to 9 P. M.

JOHN J. ZUILLE, Cashier.

EXTRA DIVIDEND.

UNION DIME SAVINGS BANK, Canal-st., corner of Laight.

The Board of Trustees have THIS DAY declared the usual half yearly dividend of THREE (3) PER CENT.; also an extra dividend of ONE PER CENT. (being FOUR PER CENT. for the current six months,) to all depositors entitled thereto; payable on or after Jan. 21.

If the Interest is not withdrawn it will be credited the account, and bear interest from Jan. 1, as an original deposit

ASSETS, $8,012,460 76.

Money deposited now will bear interest from Jan. 1.

JOHN McLEAN, President.
J. HAINES, }
W. S. WHITLOCK, } Vice-Presidents.

G. S. CHAPIN, Treasurer.
T. S. ARMOUR, Secretary.
NEW-YORK, Dec. 14, 1870.

NORTH RIVER SAVINGS BANK,

Corner of 8th-av. and West 34th-st.

DIVIDEND.—A SEMI-ANNUAL DIVIDEND, at the rate of SIX PER CENT. per annum, on all sums from $5 to $5,000, will be paid on and after Jan. 16, 1871.

MONEY DEPOSITED on or before the 20th of January, will draw INTEREST from Jan. 1.

BANK open daily from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M.; also on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday evenings, from 6 to 8 o'clock. JOHN HOOPER, President.

JAMES O. BENNETT, Secretary.

Broadway Savings Institution,

NO. 937 BROADWAY, entrance on Park-place. Interest on deposits entitled thereto, for the six months ending Dec. 31, at the rate of Six per Cent. per annum on all sums of $5 and upward, will be paid on and after MONDAY, Jan. 16, 1871.

R. RANKIN, } Trustees.
WADE B. WORRALL, Sec. PETER CUMMING, Acct.

THIRD-AVENUE SAVINGS BANK.

Corner 3d-av. and 26th-st.,

NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1870.

INTEREST.—Semi-annual interest at the rate of Six per Cent. per annum, on all sums from $1 to $5,000, will be paid on and after the THIRD MONDAY in January.

Interest will be added to accounts Jan. 1, and if not drawn bear interest as new deposits. Bank open daily from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M., and on MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY EVENINGS from 6 to 8 o'clock. SPENCER ROME, Secretary.

WM. B. BIBBINS, Secretary.

GREENWICH SAVINGS BANK, }
NEW-YORK, Dec. 20, 1870. }

INTEREST WILL BE PAID TO DEPOSITORS at the rate of seven per cent. per annum on all sums of $5 to $500, and six per cent. on sums exceeding $500, agreeably with the provisions of the by-laws, free from GOVERNMENT TAX and payable on and after Monday, 16th day of January, 1871.

All interest not called for will be credited as principal, and draw interest accordingly. All deposits made on or before January 10, 1871, will draw interest from the first. BENJAMIN F. WHEELWRIGHT, President.

JAMES BRYCE, }
J. HASSEN RHOADES, } Secretaries.

BOWLING-GREEN SAVINGS BANK.

NO. 33 BROADWAY.

Deposits of any sum, from 10 cents to $10,000, will be received. SIX PER CENT. interest free of Government tax. Interest on new deposits commences on the first of every month.

HENRY SMITH, President.

REEVES E. SELMES, Secretary.
WALTER ROCHE, }
EDWARD HOGAN, } Vice-Presidents.

MECHANICS' AND TRADERS' SAVINGS INSTITUTION,

No. 283 BOWERY, NEAR HOUSTON-ST.

SIX PER CENT. interest allowed on all sums from $5 to $10,000. Deposits made now draw interest from Jan. 1. GERMAN SPOKEN. Open daily from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M., and on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10 to 7. ALFRED T. CONKLIN, President.

HENRY C. FISHER, Sec'y.

METROPOLITAN SAVINGS BANK.

NOS. 1 AND 3 THIRD-AV., NEW-YORK, opposite Cooper Institute. SIX PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on ALL SUMS of $5 and upward.

ONE DOLLAR RECEIVED.

INTEREST COMMENCES JAN. 1, on deposits made now.

ISAAC T. SMITH, President.

T. W. LILLIE, Secretary.

THIRD-AVENUE SAVINGS BANK,

Corner of 3d-av. and 26th-st.

Open daily from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M., and on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday evenings, from 6 to 8 o'clock. Six per cent. interest paid on all sums from $1 to $5,000.

MARBLE MANTELS.

MARBLE AND MARBLEIZED MANTELS of the latest imported patterns. Monuments, at reduced prices. A. KLABER, Steam Marble Works, No. 134 East 18th-st., near 3d-av., N. Y.

S. KLABER & CO.'S MARBLE WORKS, No. 223 West 51st., between Broadway and 6th-av.—Marble and Marbleized Mantels, Monuments; original designs; cheapest in the City.

MARBLEIZED SLATE MANTELS.—Rich and elegant designs, from $9, $12, $15 up to $250. T. B. STEWART & CO., No. 605 6th-av., between 35th and 36th sts.

MISCELLANEOUS.

CUSTOM-HOUSE, NEW-YORK. }
COLLECTOR'S OFFICE, Dec. 24, 1870. }

THE BONDED WAREHOUSE OF S. S. PATTERSON & CO., Nos. 7 and 9 Bridge-st., is discontinued. Importers and merchants having dutiable merchandise stored in the above warehouse, are hereby notified to permit, or transfer their goods on or before the 3d of January, 1871.

All merchandise not so permitted or transferred, on the 3d of January 1871, will be sent at the expense of the owners to Nos. 6, 8 and 10 Bridge-st., the nearest Bonded Warehouse.

THOMAS MURPHY, Collector.

STATIONERY.

DIARIES FOR 1871.—ALL SIZES, FROM 25 cents to $3. All kinds of blank books, stationery and printing at low prices. Orders solicited. FRANCIS & LOUTREL, No. 45 Maiden-lane, New-York.

FRANCIS & LOUTREL, NO. 45 Maiden-lane, offer a large assortment of fancy stationery suitable for holiday gifts. Diaries for 1871

BOARDING AND LODGING.

BRIGHT, CHEERFUL ROOMS, EN suite or separately, in a private family; comforts of a home offered; private table if desired; moderate terms. Apply at No. 278 4th-av., nearly opposite Calvary Church.

TO LET, FURNISHED—TWO OR three rooms, on parlor floor, to one or more gentlemen; also, room on third floor; references exchanged. No. 45 East 18th-st., between Broadway and 4th-av.

NO. 1 IRVING-PLACE, CORNER OF 14TH-ST.—Front parlors and bed-rooms, handsomely furnished, with first-class table, can now be secured by early application.

NO. 279 4TH-AV., HOUSE ADJOINING Calvary Church, two bright cheerful rooms to let with board; vacated in consequence of a family unexpectedly leaving the City.

$7 TO $10 PER WEEK.—DESIRABLE rooms, with excellent board, at Nos. 174 and 176 Bleecker-st. A Literary Society, composed of the boarders, has been established.

NO. 224 EAST 19TH-ST., BETWEEN 2d and 3d avs.; rooms to let, with or without board; carpets and furniture of the house entirely new.

SECOND FLOOR—SPACIOUS AND handsomely furnished, with or without private table; also large fourth story room, with superior board. No. 53 West 23d-st. References.

ONE BRIGHT CHEERFUL SUITE of rooms, (or separately,) in private family; comforts of a home; private table, if desired. No. 278 4th-av., nearly opposite Calvary Church. References.

FIFTH-AV., NO. 251, CORNER OF 28TH-ST.—One suite of four rooms, together or separately; private table, French man cook.

NO. 343 WEST 23D-ST.—A COMFORTably-furnished room, with board for two persons, at $14; also, a room with board for three at $24.

NO. 28 WEST 12TH-ST.—HANDSOMEly-furnished room for a family or party of gentlemen; also single rooms; house and table first-class.

HOUSES & ROOMS WANTED.

AN ENGLISH PROFESSOR OF MATHematics wants a bedroom, with fire; central situation; terms moderate; would share with another. Address PROFESSOR, Box No. 140 *Times* Office.

AUCTION SALES.

ALLEN B. MINER, Auctioneer.

BY ALLEN B. MINER & BROTHER, 58 State Henry E. Leeds & Miner. Established, 1847. Sales-rooms No. 95 Chambers, and No. 77 Reade-st.

ALLEN B. MINER & BROTHER will sell at auction, on THURSDAY AND FRIDAY EVENINGS, Dec. 29 and 30, AT 7½ O'CLOCK, AT THE LEEDS ART GALLERIES, Nos. 817 and 819 Broadway, corner of 12th-st., peremptory sale of fine original modern oil-paintings of the French, Flemish and Belgian schools, comprising the entire balance of invoices of Messrs. D. DE HEVVETTER, of ANTWERP, and P. A. VOGET, of AMSTERDAM, consigned to us direct, and fully equaling, if not excelling those sold in our last sale of the 21st and 22d inst. The collection will embrace the latest and finest examples of the following distinguished and much-esteemed artists, and are represented by highly finished and characteristic pictures, viz:

HENRIETTE BROCH, of ANTWERP.
HENRI SCHAEFELS, OF ANTWERP.

The famous picture of the "Battle of the Walcherson," taken from Motley's "History of the Rise of the Dutch Republic," unquestionably the most spirited and finest work of this eminent master in the country.

DAVID COL.

Interior and figures; painted in the happiest vein of this eminently-humorous artist, and not excelled by any painting heretofore sold in this city.

EUGENE VERBOECKHOVEN.

A large, superb Landscape, with cattle and sheep. Full of beautiful detail and elaboration.

Also works of

F. Rotllaen,	Th. Gerard,	G. Wintz,
David de Noter,	T. Carolus,	Kuwasseg,
L. Robbe,	E. Bidan,	Koek Koek,
Portellje,	Laurent de Beul,	Plateel,
J. F. Kruseman,	F. von Seben,	C. Delckert,
H. de Vos,	La Forie,	Henry de Beul,
Speldorn,	Reykelhuysen,	Scheifont,
Lamschroder,	J. Berlin,	Eversen,

And many others of excellency.

Also, a number of fine American pictures, the production of well-known resident artists.

The Galleries will BE OPEN on and after MONDAY, 26th inst., day and evening, FREE, until sale.

OFFICE OF DEPOT QUARTERMASTER, }
SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 7, 1870. }

SALE OF GOVERNMENT STEAMER NEWBERNE.

The United States steamer NEWBERNE, with all her gear, rigging, spars, sails, boats, cabin furniture, and other appointments, will be offered for sale at public auction at the office of the Depot Quartermaster in San Francisco, on MONDAY, the 16th day of January, 1871.

The NEWBERNE is a screw-propeller of 548 tons, O. M., of 250-horse power, 36-inch cylinder and 36-inch stroke, 200 feet in length, was built of white oak, in Brooklyn, N. Y., in 1863, draws about 16 feet of water when loaded, and is thoroughly well found in every particular.

In April last she received a new boiler and donkey-pump with boiler attached, and was thoroughly overhauled.

Terms cash in gold coin of the United States; 20 per cent. to be paid on the day of sale, and the balance on the delivery of the vessel.

Further particulars may be obtained of the undersigned, or at the office of Capt. WM. B. HUGHES, A. Q. M., San Francisco. C. G. SAWTELLE, Major and Quartermaster in charge of Depot.

B. F. THOMAS, Auctioneer.

AN IMMENSE VARIETY OF FINE OIL PAINTINGS,

By European and American artists, sold by auction to pay advances, at an

ENORMOUS SACRIFICE.

EVERY EVENING THIS WEEK, at 7 o'clock PRECISELY. CUSTOMERS, STRANGERS, AND THE RESIDENTS OF THE NEIGHBORING CITIES, ARE RESPECTFULLY INVITED TO EXAMINE THEM, AT ARTIST GALLERY, No. 587 Broadway, opposite Metropolitan Hotel.

PROPOSALS.

WROUGHT AND CAST IRON WORK.

POST-OFFICE AND UNITED STATES COURT-HOUSE, NEW-YORK CITY, }
OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT, Dec. 15, 1870. }

Sealed proposals will be received at the office of the Superintendent until 12 M., Jan. 15, 1871, for furnishing, delivering, fitting, and putting in place the cast and wrought iron work exhibited in plans, specifications and schedules now in this office, consisting of cast-iron columns, bed-plates, &c., and wrought-iron beams, girders, &c.

The work of the columns, iron beams and girders must be furnished, delivered, fitted, and put in place complete, within four months after date of written notice to commence the work, and the remainder as rapidly as required by the progress of the work, and as demanded by the Superintendent.

The contractors will be permitted the use of the derricks and engines in putting the work in place, without charge, but will be required to pay the time of the men employed in working them, who will be furnished by the Department when required.

Scaffolding to be furnished by the contractors.

Proposals will be made by the piece or by weight for the various castings and beams as provided for in the schedules.

The work will not be subdivided among different bidders, but will be considered in the aggregate.

Payments will be made monthly, deducting ten per cent. until the completion of the contract.

All bids must be accompanied by a penal bond in the sum of $25,000, that the bidder will accept and perform the contract if awarded him, the sufficiency of the security to be certified by the United States Judge, Clerk of the United States Court, or District-Att rney of the district where he resides.

The Department reserves the right to reject any or all bids, if it be deemed for the interest of the Government to do so; and any bid that is not made on the printed form to be obtained in this office, and does not conform in every respect to the requirements of this advertisement, will not be considered; neither will any proposals be received from parties who are not th mselves engaged in the manufacture of cast or wrought iron work, and who have not the necessary facilities for getting out the castings or rolled beams.

Proposals will be indorsed "Bids for Iron Work," and addressed to CALVIN T. HULBURD, Superintendent.

PROPOSALS

FOR THE ERECTION OF TEMPORARY ADOBE BUILDINGS, AT FORT QUITMAN, TEXAS.

HEAD-QUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS, }
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, Nov. 7, 1870. }

SEALED PROPOSALS, in triplicate, of the form

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION.

Continued from First Page.

and pickpockets, confidence men and emigrant swindlers, murderers and men who had unsuccessfully attempted human life, were all treated alike and given a full share of the good things provided by the Commissioners. The poor wretches in the ten-day houses, men or women, who had been committed for intoxication or on confession of vagrancy, were also gladdened by the appearance of trenchers heaped with appetizing viands, and their stomachs, diseased by want and intemperance, no longer ached. In the female prison the inmates enjoyed their Christmas cheer with thankfulness, and many a womanly trait was manifested in the little table arrangements of the occupants of cells. The visitor, as he walked through the corridors and court-yards, could not fail to perceive a subdued look upon every face, and as he passed the cell doors and heard the inmates salutation of a "Merry Christmas Sir," the thought how these misguided men and women had so recklessly wrecked themselves made the words appear a mockery, uttered by the lips of some gibing demon. A few green wreaths and mottoes hanging near the entrance, recalled, however, the season of joy, and the hope came springing up that even here, in darksome cells and behind close-barred doors, the wondrous sympathy of Him who came to save sinners might find an echo, which would bear as good and glorious fruit as ever came from chapel holy or cathedral grand. Despite the character of the inmates of the prison, it was easy to see that the softening influences of the holiday times were felt, and the day passed with some degree of happiness to those compelled to a temporary residence therein.

AMONG THE GERMANS.

The second day of this year's Christmas celebration, by the Germans in this City, was fully enjoyed among all classes, young and old, some of whom crowded the theatres and other places of public amusement, and others resorted to the head-quarters of the various German societies, where special Christmas festivities had been arranged, under the auspices of the numerous vocal and musical organizations, the Turner corporations and the various German lodges. At the Stadt Theatre two special performances were given in the afternoon and evening, which were largely patronized by the working classes and their families, and by those classes who very seldom have an opportunity to enjoy the luxury. Places like the Atlantic Garden, the Pacific Garden, the National Garden, and other public *locales* along the Bowery, were crowded by vast throngs of pleasure-seekers. At the Atlantic Garden the public was entertained by the choral performances of a Tyrolese band of singers. At the National Garden a double concert was given, in which several clever soloists assisted. The West-side Turnverein, located at No. 242 Spring-street, gave a Christmas soirée, including a drawing for Christmas presents, which was a very creditable affair, and fully enjoyed by the numerous patrons of this young institution, which was founded only about a year since by the New-York Turnverein, and is now in a flourishing condition. At the Turn Hall Theatre, in Orchard-street, the dramatic section of the New-York Turnverein gave a dramatic performance before a vast audience, composed of the friends of this popular organization. A popular drama, entitled "Christmas Eve," by Dr. ERNST RAUPACH, was represented. The ball of the Freischuetz Guard, at the Germania Assembly Rooms, was an equally creditable affair, and fully patronized by the friends of that organization. At the Harmonie Rooms, in Essex-street, a numerous and respectable party was engaged in a calico ball, given under the auspices of the German Harmonie Benevolent Association. The Teutonia Club held its ninth annual ball at the Union Assembly Rooms, in Grand-street, and the New-York Maennerchor, a thriving association of vocalists, had a Christmas soirée dansante at the Turtle Bay Brewery Hall. At the Casino, in Houston-street, the Ninth Ward Reform Schuetzen Club, a popular organization of sharp-shooters, and their friends held forth, while the Fortbildungsverein, a German literary association, gave a Christmas ball at the National Assembly Rooms in Forty-fourth-street, which was duly patronized by its friends and the numerous families attached to this popular organization. Besides all these, numerous other German civic societies and lodges were engaged in special Christmas festivities at their respective headquarters.

RACING AT UNION COURSE.

There are some men who will go to see a horse-race in any weather, and quite a delegation of these enthusiasts, in regard to equine sports, gathered at Union Course, yesterday, to celebrate Christmas by witnessing the closing trots of the season. The track was frozen up and in very poor condition, and, as a consequence, the time made was anything but satisfactory. Four races came off, and the trotting in the first two was particularly good, the horses being lapped most of the distance in each mile.

The first race was a match for $200 between L. S. SAMMIS' g. m. *Molly* and R. BAKER's b. m. *Rose*, both horses going in harness. *Molly* won in three heats. Time—3:15, 3:20, 3:24.

The second race was a match for $500 between R. ENGLEMEN's b. g. *Clambake* and E. CLARKSON's w. h. *Pleasure Boy*. *Clambake* won the first and second heats, and the fourth. Time—3:02, 3:02½, 2:56, 2:56½.

The next event was a wagon race for $200 a side between C. A. SAMMIS' mare *Katy Did* and R. MACOMBER's s. h. *Columbus*. *Katy Did* won in two heats, but the wagons were heavy, and the time, 3:03 in each mile, was poor.

In the fourth race L. S. SAMMIS' gelding *Venture* beat M. MANN's stallion *Champion*, and W. PAGE's mare *Nelly* in two straight heats. Time—2:56, 2:56½.

RANDALL'S ISLAND.

At the House of Refuge on Randall's Island the Christmas observances of Sunday were prolonged yesterday. A substantial repast was provided for the children, and the day was a holiday with them. It is satisfactory to observe that there are only two cases of illness in the institution, and these are of a chronic nature, and not the result of any want of attention on the part of its managers. The House is in part self-sustaining, and statistics show that of those who have been received, from eighty to eighty-two per cent. have, by the influence of the institution, been reclaimed. The day was passed with the most perfect feelings of pleasure and satisfaction.

THE NURSERY.

In the Nursery the same feelings of joy and gladness which characterized the observance of Christmas in the Reformatory were made manifest, and under the superintendence of an efficient management the day was in reality an occasion of joy. It contains 400 inmates of both sexes. In each department a special Christmas tree, with its invariable accompaniment of good things, was lighted up, and Santa Claus, ever mindful of his believers, showered down a choice selection of confectionery and fruits. At 10 o'clock A. M. the exercises were commenced in the chapel adjoining the Nursery, comprising dialogues, solos, choruses and declamations, which left an impression in the minds of the audience flattering alike to the intelligence of the children and the ability of their teachers. An excellent dinner was then served out, which was followed by a distribution of presents given by Mrs. GIBBONS, Mr. WILLETT and Father CHAMBEAU. But the most interesting feature in the celebration in the whole island was the observance of the day by the beneficiaries. In the idiot department, numbering 143, about twenty of whom are in a hopeless condition, the whole department presented an appearance which, considering the nature of its occupants, was remarkable both for the order in which everything appeared to be conducted, and the cleanliness and training of the inmates. Their Christmas tree was lighted with peculiar brilliancy, to produce a greater effect upon their imaginations. Under the direction of their Superintendent, Miss DUMPHY, they gave a series of exercises, musical and otherwise, forcibly demonstrating the state of perfection to which they have been brought. It is impossible to describe the delight with which all enjoyed the festivities, and a proper sense of the value of such an institution can be obtained only by visiting it. The Foundling Hospital on the island was also the scene of festivities suitable to the occasion.

THE HARBOR FORTS AND THE NAVY-YARD.

The garrisons at Fort Hamilton, Bedloe's Island, Willett's Point and Fort Schuyler, made some little effort to celebrate the holiday of Christmas. There were no drills to worry the men, and only a morning parade and guard mount, so they found considerable leisure to amuse themselves. The cooks, aided by the contributions of the officers and men, succeeded in getting up a splendid dinner, and the soldiers of Uncle Sam were quite jolly over the occasion. Roast turkey and mince pies, with other appetizing fixings, afforded a decided change to the usual routine of the garrison *cuisine*, and the dinner yesterday proved a decided success. The flags on the garrison poles hung heavily in the frosty air, and the grounds in the neighborhood were quiet but cheerful, as though even in the midst of these warlike scenes the holy doctrine of peace on earth and good will toward men had been heard and answered. In the Navy-yard the same quiet and repose was observable, the officers on duty there being nearly all absent in answer to cheerful summonses to some friend's domestic hearth. The marines had liberty, and the jolly tars stationed in the Yard were dressed in their best. Dinner in the Yard kitchens was an important feature, and with some effort made a holiday appearance in the barrack-rooms, and on board the receiving-ship, the sailors reviving their reminiscences of sea life by ample plates of plum duff. The visitor who happened to be in any of these depots of war material and men was naturally impressed with the air of loneliness apparent everywhere, an utter contrast to the scenes in similar places on the other side of the Atlantic, where the dogs of war are either wildly tearing each other, in defiance of the Christmas doctrines, or are howling in loosened leash, ready for another spring.

THE SAILORS.

At the Sailors' Homes, in Cherry and Pearl streets, occurred an exhibition of the human gastronomic powers, wonderful and startling to behold. The ordinary supposition is that the men of the sea can tackle hard-tack and attack pork and beans with grand effect. But when they are piped down to such a sumptuous dinner as their generous hosts provided yesterday, they have an unusual task before them. Turkeys, chickens, geese, ducks, pigeons, beef, lamb, mutton, ham, chicken soup, plum pudding, mince pie and apples constituted the bill of fare. The genial Capt. BLAKE, of the Pearl-street Sailors' Home, laughed, teased and urged his guests to eat—when (poor fellows) they were ready to burst with good things. Among the vessels along the river front and in the stream, the crews rejoiced in savory dishes, and occasionally something in a liquid form, to cheer, and possibly inebriate. In the afternoon the spirit commenced to "move." Songs were sung, the fantastic toe was agitated, and the screaming violin made night howl with fierce revelry echoes.

TARGET EXCURSIONS, FANTASTICALS, &C.

The mild temperature of the day had much to do with outward amusements. The target companies were up and about, late and early. It is very questionable whether their members went to bed at all or not. If they did, they turned out unseasonably early, and made the Bowery and other well-traveled thoroughfares noisy at an unusually early hour. As a general thing their military outfit was anything but *en regle*. They might, indeed, pass for Francs-Tireurs. Notwithstanding the Fifteenth Amendment and the great social changes it was expected to effect, the inevitable darkey appeared in the procession in his usual position, and proudly bore aloft the flower-bespangled bull's-eye, upon the painted front of which had shots innumerable were to be received, and good ones, few. No unusual accessories accompanied those time-honored excursions. They belong to the standard class of holiday attractions, and scorn to make innovations. Not so with the Fantasticals; innovation is their peculiar forte, and yesterday they stretched their privileges to the utmost extent. These "ragamuffins" turned out in numbers innumerable, and in costumes more variable than even dame Nature ever gave them any license for. Their outfit was unlike anything on the earth above, or in the waters below, and the banners they bore, though not bearing peculiarly artistic legends, yet had inscriptions not to be met with every day. The "First Ward United Mug-Lifters' Association," was one of the devices that attracted attention, and to judge from the nondescript crowd that followed there was little doubt to be entertained that there was more truth than poetry in the motto. Those strangely bedizened merry-makers were to be met with on every leading street, and everywhere crowds of delighted juveniles followed in their wake. They were, so far as our reporter's observations extended, generally sober and well conducted, and to all appearances only bent on legitimate fun, feeling happy themselves, and trying to make others feel likewise. They chose various modes of locomotion—some went in carriages, some on horseback, and others adopted the primitive style of travel, and kept their blood in circulation by trudging along on foot. But in all cases the strains of strange music accompanied their progress. A band was, apparently, a necessary accompanying evil that a good-natured public has to to erate. The music was below criticism, but the noise was above all ordinary keys known to professionals. Brass drums and squeaky clarionets were the favorites, and both these musical instruments proved their powers of endurance in a wonderful way.

As a Sixteenth Ward target company was passing through Bleecker-street, near West Eleventh-street, yesterday morning, a man in the ranks was pointed out to Detective BLACKWOOD, of the Ninth Precinct, as one who had lately robbed the house No. 4 Ninth-avenue. BLACKWOOD arrested the man, but immediately the entire company turned upon the detective, gave him a terrible beating, and then marched off in triumph with the rescued thief. Information being taken to the Ninth Precinct Station-house of the outrage, Capt. WASHBURN went out with his entire reserve, but the company had got so far away that it was not overtaken.

The Day in Brooklyn.

The observance of Christmas in the City of Churches, as elsewhere, did not fairly commence until yesterday morning. On Sunday there were, of course, the usual number of turkeys devoured, hands shaken and "Merry Christmas'" wished, but the real, genuine, whole-souled, old-fashioned celebration of the glorious festival did not commence until the sun of yesterday arose. At an early hour citizens were to be seen hurrying along the streets in great numbers to greet their friends and drown in sociability all thoughts of care and business.

To the little ones, however, the day brought more pleasure than to the older members of society. They had stockings by the fire-side, into which the generous hands of Santa Claus put dolls, candies and toys in great abundance. In the various Sunday-schools, also, there was ample provision made to gladden the little hearts. Trees, laden with all that could tempt the eye or tickle the palate, made the little souls dance with joy. The most interesting spectacle, however, of a public character, was that presented at the Bethel of Plymouth Church, on Hicks-street, where at least 100 shouting youngsters sat down at a table laden with all the good things of the season by the bounty of Christian hearts.

At the Newsboys Home, on Poplar-street, a similar scene was presented; boot-blacks and news-venders by the score were gathered together around tables that groaned beneath turkey, geese and mutton.

At the county buildings there was also an ample feast spread for the unfortunate inmates, who, however, found that even they could be moved to mirth by generous treatment and social life.

The Day in New-Jersey.

The Christmas festivities, yesterday, were largely participated in, in Jersey City, and enjoyed with intense zest. The proprietors of the Jersey City *Evening Journal* entertained about 200 newsboys and many personal friends with a sumptuous dinner in Cooper's Hall. The editor, Major PANGBORN, occupied the chair, and delivered an address appropriate to the occasion. Among the guests present were several Aldermen and members elect of the Legislature.

The Sunday-schools of the Zion Methodist Episcopal church, on Monmouth-street, and of the Bethel, on South Eighth-street, held their Christmas festival last evening, at which a large number of the respective congregations attended. The Oceanic Yacht Club held their annual dinner at their club-house, foot of Van Vorst-street, and the Jersey City Saengerrunde and Turnverein Societies held their annual Christmas ball in Cooper's and Turner's Halls respectively. The firemen of Engine No. 2, composing the Gammontown Rangers, paraded the streets of Jersey City, yesterday, arrayed in the most grotesque costumes and attended by a noisy pack of delighted gamins.

How Ship-Building Has Declined in Canada.

From the Quebec Chronicle.

We publish below a statement of the vessels built and launched in Quebec from 1852 till 1870, inclusive. It affords a clear idea of the recent condition of this languishing industry, with which our city has had such extensive connection. It will thereby be apparent how this business has been declining, and the greatness of its influence on the general prosperity will be understood. It is seen from these figures that ship-building has reached its lowest point of late years, that the only year that can compare with 1870 is 1859, when but 10,169 tons were put up. For the former the quantity stands 10,875 tons. The worst feature of the case is, moreover, that there is no prospect of any improvement. Unless the art dies altogether among us, it will be hard for it to sink any lower. Eighteen small vessels, of under 11,000 tons, is anything but a cheering exhibit. The carpenters will this Winter be for the most part idle, unless they can find different work. Of the ten ships at present on the stocks, five are reported finished, leaving but a small amount of occupation for the craft generally. Already it has philosophically resigned itself to the discouraging prospect, either by removal from the city, or the search for or discovery of other employment. Yet, other descriptions of ship-building have not taken much root among us. If there was a time when the men of this trade needed fresh resources to enable them to tide over the long, dull winters, it is the present. All power therefore to the North Shore Railway and kindred schemes.

Vessels built and launched in Quebec district from 1852 to December, 1870:

Year.	Number.	Tonnage.	Average Tonnage.
1852	23	21,572	937,913
1853	43	48,039	1,117,186
1854	44	49,951	1,021,642
1855	31	28,827	929,903
1856	40	33,107	827,675
1857	48	36,619	762,896
1858	24	20,121	838,375
1859	17	10,169	598,176
1860	22	18,367	834,863
1861	27	22,617	837,666
1862	27	23,149	857,370
1863	63	54,287	861,700
1864	63	56,655	899,286
1865	50	42,316	846,327
1866	42	28,769	684,952
1867	16	15,024	939,000
1868	34	23,699	697,000
1869	30	14,895	496,000
1870	18	10,875	604,000

The Nitro-Glycerine Explosion at Hoosac Tunnel—Further Particulars.

From the Springfield (Mass.) Republican, Dec. 26.

The magazine of the nitro-glycerine works, at the west shaft of the Hoosac Tunnel, which exploded Friday afternoon, was situated in a ravine about 200 feet from the works, and was surrounded by a board fence ten feet high. The trees in the vicinity were stripped and the fence destroyed, leaving some of the standards of the fence, while only one timber stuck upright in the ground remained of the magazine. A cavity of five feet in diameter, and about three feet deep, marks the spot where the explosion commenced. There were about 800 pounds of nitro-glycerine in and about the magazine at the time, of which 350 pounds were congealed and inside of the magazine, while about the same quantity had been placed there about two hours before—the result of the morning's work. The foreman in charge, JOHN V. BELSON, had left the boarding-house, about 200 feet from the magazine ten minutes previously, with a pail of hot water, intending to have a bath, as was his habit after getting through his work. He had also removed from the house, placing it in his overcoat pocket, a small vial of nitro-glycerine, a sample used for showing visitors. A stove fed with anthracite coal is kept burning during the Fall, Winter and Spring, to maintain an equable temperature. One theory is that he hung his coat near the stove and thereby caused the explosion, but as he was as thoroughly acquainted with the properties of the explosive as any other man in the country, it is inferred that he had forgotten the vial was in his coat, slipped on a few seconds previous. The instant before the explosion one of the hands remarked a smoke rising from the magazine. The shock was so great that the windows of the house and factory were blown out, and the boards on the front of the factory were loosened from the plates. Several cans of congealed nitro-glycerine were found unexploded. The explosion was plainly heard and felt as far south as Cheshire. The saddest thing about the sudden taking-off of Mr. BELSON is the fact of his sending for his two children to come on from the West, sixteen days previous. The friend to whom his letter was addressed was absent, and their departure was therefore delayed. They left Corry, Penn., last Tuesday, and were snowed in at Dunkirk, and did not arrive till Friday, two hours after their father's sad death. They had been in charge of a relative, their father being a widower. It was some years since he had seen them, and he counted much on their arrival, intending to make a home and to marry again, the day succeeding the accident. Mr. BELSON was greatly respected by those who knew him. He had been engaged with Mr. MOWBRAY, the proprietor of the works, almost uninterruptedly for ten years, and was in every respect a competent, faithful superintendent, and one whom it will be difficult to replace. None of the hands are anxious to leave on account of the accident, and Mr. MOWBRAY will at once resume operations, giving his personal attention, as formerly, to the manufacture. The funeral of BELSON took place at the Methodist Church in North Adams, Sunday afternoon.

THE JEWS IN ROME.

Their Former Wretched Treatment—Systematic Persecution—Organized Suffering and Wrong.

A Florence correspondent of the London *Daily News* gives an interesting summary of the peculiar legal state of the Jews in Rome—of the 4,800 Jews huddled together in the Ghetto, and who, until a very few years ago, were forcibly penned up there, the huge iron gates being closed at nightfall, and neither ingress nor egress permitted by the guards until the following morning.

THEIR WRETCHEDNESS.

Of this wretched population—wretched beyond expression—miserably crushed down by a secular bigotry and oppression, nearly one-half—some 2,000 persons—are daily making the streets and squares of Rome echo with cries—the Italian equivalents of "old clo'." What episodes of misery, what epochs of persecution are not suggested by their bent forms and their thin querulous cries! BALLANTI has sketched the suffering which is the badge of all their tribe, and its outlines are the following: The horrid den in which they are cooped up was assigned to them about the middle of the sixteenth century by Pope PAUL IV., with the benevolent view of preserving Catholics from the fatal contagion of their intercourse. PIUS V. managed to improve, even on the rigor of the stern CARAFFA; he found time amid his plotting against ELIZABETH and the Huguenots to make the iron enter more deeply into the souls of his own Jewish subjects; he kept them immured in the Ghetto as closely as galley-slaves. When by chance a wretched Hebrew was descried in the streets of Rome, the hue-and-cry was given, and he was hunted back to the common den, or worse still, dragged to the cells of the Inquisition. Such stories as are now spread in China against Christian missionaries, the stories which in other European countries had given rise to the massacres associated with little HUGH of Lincoln or St. Simon, the child saint of Trent, were naturally more rife at Rome itself, the head-quarters of the Inquisition, and there attended with more immediate injury to the unjustly calumniated victims. In 1847 permissions were given for the first time to Jews to dwell beyond the precincts of the Ghetto: but even then only in its immediate vicinity. The permissions, however, were never granted in a legal form; not even in writing. They were only a verbal permission of the Cardinal Vicar, which might at any moment be recalled on the complaint of the first Catholic house proprietor who took it into his head to regard their proximity to him as a cause of civil or religious scandal.

THE JEWS THE PARIAHS OF SOCIETY.

The Jews were, in all respects, the pariahs of society. To vex and oppress them was a thing pleasing to God and man. Their testimony was not considered as valid in any Court of law, so that a Christian who killed a Jew in the presence of twenty Jewish witnesses remained unpunished for want of proof. They could not possess real property, a disqualification which, unhappily, existed too long in countries more enlightened. They were debarred from all the liberal professions, from attendance on the public schools and academies—the only exception in their favor being the permission to attend the medical lectures at the University. A Jew might thus become a physician or a surgeon, but could only practice among the members of his own communion. Under no conceivable circumstances was it permitted to him to exercise the healing art on a Christain, not even though the Christian had been struck down by his side on the public highway in a fit of apoplexy, which the immediate use of his lancet might have relieved. Nor was that all. The prejudice or caprice of the Cardinal Vicar frequently prohibited the Jewish practitioner, when once licensed, from practicing in Rome or the Papal provinces, so that he was driven from his family, and compelled to wander forth to earn his bread in some foreign State. It has required the whole influence of the house of ROTHSCHILD, brought with a direct pressure on the Papal Government, to obtain, but very recently, from PIUS IX. permission for some of the young coreligionists of the great financiers to attend the mathematical lectures at the University. One Roman Jew obtained permission to prosecute his artistic studies at the Academy of St. Luke. And last year, for the first time, one young Jew received permission to attend—but the order expressly stated, in the character of a simple hearer—the public lectures on law. The jealousy of the priestly Government and its traditions of persecution toward the Jews were not confined to the liberal professions. A Jew was not allowed to be a locksmith. Jews capable of making locks and keys would likewise be capable of entering, without the knowledge of the owners, Christian houses. After this fashion the Papacy did justice to the Jew.

CHARITY FOR THE JEW.

Let us see how, when he was concerned, it loved mercy. Papal Rome abounds in charitable institutions. Its defenders and admirers in foreign countries have of late years been constantly proclaiming this fact to the whole world, and have even been attempting to establish contrasts between Catholic and Protestant charity, to the disparagement of the second. But the charitable institutions of Rome, however numerous or beneficent to the Catholic, were inexorably closed against the Jew. The State made no provision for them in their poverty or their sickness. Nor could private Jewish charity, through the obstacles thrown in its way by Government, supply as it might have wished the shortcomings of the State. Such an institution as the truly admirable Jewish hospital in the Via Cavour in Florence, founded and presided over by the Chev. Levi—such an admirable institution, a perfect model of cleanliness, ventilation, paternal care and constant professional skill exercised toward the inmates would have been utterly impossible in the Roman Ghetto. In the first period of his reign, PIUS IX. ordered a sum of $300 to be annually paid from the treasury to relieve the poverty and sickness of the Jews in the Ghetto. But the $300 could really no more meet such a want than a single cup of water would have allayed the raging thirst of the sufferers of the "black hole" of Calcutta. Both the suffering and the poverty were the necessary consequences of a system.

THE OLD CLOTHES MEN.

The two thousand old Jewish clothes men who prowl about Rome and its neighborhood are the natural creations of such a state of things. To carry on their trade they, too, required until very lately, a special permission. And in practice this still continued to be the case until the overthrow of the Papal Government, for it was always in the power of any subordinate Papal functionary to prevent the old clothes man from carrying on his trade in the provinces and to send him back to Rome. And it must never be forgotten that while the Roman Jews paid all the taxes levied on the other classes of citizens, they paid a further series of special imposts simply because they were Jews. These imposts took their rise in the following way. Pope JULIUS III. had levied a tax of ten golden scudi on each of the synagogues—in his reign 115 in number—in the States of the Church. PAUL IV. suppressed all these synagogues with three exceptions—those of Rome, Ancona, and Avignon. There ensued a corresponding deficit in the income of the Casa Catecumenica, of which these taxes formed a part. However, the Papal Chancellor of the Exchequer of those days found a rough-and-ready way of meeting the deficit. The Jews of Rome itself had additional taxes imposed on them to make up for the loss of the sums no longer flowing in from the 112 suppressed synagogues. The Jews of Rome were laden with a fresh pecuniary burden, because 112 other Jewish communities were debarred from exercising the rites of their faith! CLEMENT VIII. somewhat reduced these burdens. They were, however, again increased by URBAN VIII. Of course the Jewish community has never been wanting in the efforts within its own sphere to mitigate the sufferings caused by such a state of matters among the poorer members. Still, the system, in its secular and most logical rigor, told terribly against them. This mass of organized suffering and wrong, these iniquities perpetrated in the name of religion must long leave their traces on the Jewish community of Rome.

A Woman Burned to Death in Baltimore.

From the Baltimore Sun, Dec. 24.

A melancholy case of fatal burning occurred in East Baltimore, yesterday morning, which created much sympathy and excitement. About 10 o'clock Mrs. FERRANDINI, wife of Mr. C. FERRANDINI, the well-known hair-dresser at Barnum's Hotel, residing at No. 250 East Baltimore-street, was burned in such a manner as to cause her death last night, after much suffering. It appears that Mr. FERRANDINI and his wife had contemplated giving a Christmas party, and, among other arrangements, had a kettle on the stove filled with wax and turpentine, with which they had intended to wax the floor for dancing. The contents of the kettle took fire, and Mrs. FERRANDINI ran to remove the vessel and throw it into the yard. On reaching the door she met her husband, who was coming in from the yard, and in her endeavors to get rid of the burning fluid without throwing it on her husband, she scattered some of it on her dress, and was in an instant enveloped in flames. Mr. FERRANDINI ran to her and succeeded, with the help of some of the neighbors, who were alarmed by her cries, in tearing off the clothes from her person, but not until she was horribly burned about the face and body. The hands and arms of Mr. FERRANDINI were badly burned in his endeavors to save his wife. Dr. MONMONIER was immediately summoned, and did all in his power to relieve the sufferers. Mrs. FERRANDINI lingered until 9½ o'clock last evening, when she expired.

LOCAL NEWS IN BRIEF.

NEW-YORK.

The Central Park meteorological report for the last week sets forth the following facts and figures: Barometer—Mean, 29.870 inches; maximum at 9 A. M. Dec. 22, 30.200 inches; minimum at 5 A. M. Dec. 20, 29.380 inches; range, .820 inch. Thermometer—Mean, 28.2°; maximum at 1 P. M. Dec. 20, 44.0°; minimum at 8 A. M. Dec. 24, 14.5°: range, 29.5°. Dec. 19, rain from 9½ P. M. to 12 P. M.; amount of water, .31 inch; Dec. 20, rain from 0 hours 0 minutes to 8 A. M., .46 inch; total amount of water for week, .77 inch. Distance traveled by the wind during the week, 1,822 miles.

Our Hebrew fellow-citizens are not behind the times, as we notice by the organization of the "Young Men's Hebrew Association," an organization similar, *mutatis mutandis*, to the Young Men's Christian Association. From the well-known reputation of the gentlemen upon the Board of Directors, and the energy displayed by the officers, it is safe to predict a career of usefulness for this new association, the want of which has long been felt in Jewish circles. Prominent Hebrews have already been engaged, and a course of lectures upon Jewish topics and Hebrew literature will soon be announced.

About 4 o'clock, yesterday morning, ANDREW CLINE, of No. 555 Ninth-avenue, was attacked near the corner of Forty-fourth-street and Ninth-avenue, by a gang of ruffians, one of whom knocked him down and another cut him with a knife in the right leg, below the knee, inflicting a very severe wound. The assailants then fled, and all escaped. The police, upon arriving at the scene, found only the wounded man, who was removed to Bellevue Hospital.

Some malicious persons, yesterday morning, set fire to two barrels of liquid gas on the sidewalk, in front of No. 301 Bowery, which were destroyed, but fortunately without injury to surrounding property.

Yesterday morning an unknown man, about fifty years of age, was found in the hallway of No. 9 Mulberry-street in an insensible condition, and it was ascertained that he was suffering from cold, dissipation and destitution. He was removed to the Park Hospital.

The two-story frame building No. 427 West Forty-third-street, occupied by THOMAS CLIFFORD as a carpenter-shop, was damaged by fire yesterday morning to the amount of $800.

LEWIS HERMANN, of No. 18 West Thirteenth-street, was knocked down yesterday on pier No. 5 North River, by a team of runaway horses, and so severely injured that he was taken to the Park Hospital.

The second scientific lecture before the American Institute will be given this evening, at the Academy of Music, by Prof. WILDER, of Cornell University. His subject, "How we Stand and Walk," will be illustrated by novel experiments, and cannot fail to interest all classes of hearers.

EDWARD McDERMOTT, a stone-cutter, employed on the new Harlem Court-house, yesterday died in Bellevue Hospital of injuries sustained on Saturday by being run over by car No. 118 of the Third-avenue line, near One Hundred and Eighteenth-street.

ELIZABETH SCHULTZ died at No. 46 Rose-street yesterday of injuries sustained a few days before by a fall down a flight of stairs.

ANDREW J. BAIRD, aged thirty-six, a barkeeper for LYNCH & CO., in Houston-street, died at No. 363 Bleecker-street, yesterday, of injuries sustained by a fall from a carriage.

The woods near the residence of Mr. JAMES GORDON BENNETT, on Washington Heights, took fire last evening, but the flames were speedily extinguished by the firemen, assisted by Capt. WILSON, of the Thirty-second Precinct, and a platoon of Police. The fire originated, as usual, from the sparks from a locomotive.

WILLIAM ROURKE, of No. 511 East Thirteenth-street, fell down a flight of stairs at No. 427 East Nineteenth-street, yesterday, and fractured his skull.

WILLIAM LUTZ, of No. 510 East Twelfth-street, while at work yesterday on the building on the corner of Sixty-second-street and Second-avenue, fell from the third story, breaking his leg and receiving severe bruises. He was taken to Bellevue Hospital.

Yesterday afternoon WM. McGIBBONS was sent to Bellevue Hospital with frosted hands.

Officer CARSON, of the Seventeenth Precinct, last evening, arrested one JOHN MULLEN for committing an assault upon him, when a large crowd of the prisoner's friends made an attack upon the officer with stones, and he was obliged to fire his revolver into the crowd. No one was struck by the shot, but it had the effect of frightening away the gang, so that CARSON got his prisoner to the Station-house.

A fire occurred yesterday afternoon on the second floor, rear of No. 13 Howard-street, occupied by JOSEPH FELDMAN, manufacturer of canes, whose loss is estimated at $500. The building was only slightly injured.

SUSAN DONNELLY, aged forty years, died suddenly last evening at her residence, No. 88 James-street. She had been discharged on Saturday from hospital, where she had been sent a month ago with a fractured leg. An inquest will be held in the case.

The following was the range of the thermometer yesterday: SIX A. M., 24°; 9 A. M., 27°; 12 M., 30°; 3 P. M., 31°; 6 P. M., 30°; 9 P. M., 31°.

BROOKLYN.

The residence of THOS. QUIGLY, No. 138 Degraw-street, was entered by a sneak thief, yesterday afternoon, and robbed of $60 worth of jewelry. About the same time, the residence of LAURENCE SMITH, No. 10 Lee-avenue, was robbed of $75 worth of clothing.

Mr. P. GALLAGHER, of No. 20 Water-street, while passing along Water-street, near Johnson, yesterday afternoon, slipped on some ice on the sidewalk and broke his leg. He was carried home by the Police.

ANTOINE BUSHMAN, of No. 97 Wyckoff-street, Williamsburg, caused the arrest of THOMAS KIERNAN, yesterday, for forcibly robbing him of a breast-pin. When arraigned before Justice DOWLING, at the Tombs, the prisoner was held for trial.

LONG ISLAND.

The promenade concert and reception of the Nassau Club took place last evening at the Newtown Hall, Jamaica. It was a very fine affair, and reflected credit on those under whose management it was gotten up. Some fine music was discoursed by the orchestra of ADOLPH GAFFERT. Nearly all the prominent men of Queens County were present with their wives. Among the members of the Committee of Arrangements were the following: Hon. J. J. ARMSTRONG, County Judge; Hon. MORRIS FOSDICK, Col. A. A. DE GRAUE, Dr. GEO. C. K. ISSAM, THEO. RODGERS, Hon. J. MOAKLY, member of Assembly, Sheriff DURLAND, HENRY W. STARR.

The annual game supper given at Nassau Hall, Flushing, last evening, by Hon. W. M. TURNER, was the finest affair of the kind ever attempted on Long Island. Besides a large number of the first citizens of Queens County, many of whom had come from the reception of the Nassau Club, Jamaica, there were present a number of influential men of Richmond County, and a large representation from the New-York Board of Aldermen. The musical part of the programme was under the supervision of Prof. BEERGE, and was not the least interesting part of the entertainment. At the supper eighteen courses of wild game were served, consisting in part of coon, buffalo, possum, deer, wild goose, wild turkey, partridge, snipe and wild duck of all kinds. The company separated at an early hour this morning well satisfied both with the supper and themselves.

A Christmas entertainment was given last night at the Congregational Church, Orient. The early part of the evening was spent in listening to some musical selections by the choir, in the church, after which an oyster supper was served in the basement. The proceeds of the evening are to be used toward paying off the church debt. There was a very large attendance.

The following are the officers of Peconic Lodge No. 349, F. and A. M., of Greenport, for 1871: Geo. H. Cleaves, W. M.; W. E. Shipman, S. W.; J. C. Clark, J. W.; G. H. Corwin, Treasurer; G. E. Post, Secretary; W. D. Corey, S. D.; J. M. Wells, J. D.; Henry Fordham, S. M. C.; A. Brown, J. M. C.; Rev. E. Stratton, Chaplain; W. F. Hammond, Organist; H. S. Ackley, Marshal; Wm. Williams, Tyler; T. L. Ireland, J. H. Harris, George Waag, Trustees.

The contractors of the new County Poorhouse at Yaphank, Messrs. RANDAL BROS., will raise the frame of the building this week, if the weather continues favorable. The building is expected to be completed by early Summer.

NEW-JERSEY.

JOHN E. PRICE, of Newark, has been elected Second Lieutenant of Company D, N. G. S. N. J.

Prof. CLARK, Principal of the Orange High School, has been made the recipient of a Christmas present from his scholars, of a piece of silver-ware for table use.

The hat manufactory of MOORE & SULEY, on New-York-avenue, Newark, was discovered to be on fire about 8 o'clock yesterday morning. The Fire Department turned out promptly, and the flames were extinguished before great damage was done.

The Sunday-schools of the South Park Presbyterian Church, in Newark, held their seventeenth anniversary on Sunday night. Besides the regular church school, there is a mission school attached to the church. Among the distinguished speakers present were Gen. J. C. JACKSON, of New-York, Rev. Dr. F. SMITH, Rev. J. P. WILSON, D. D., the pastor and others. The music by the children was excellent, and the entire services were extremely interesting.

GEORGE M. SPEAR, aged eighty years, and a resident of Hoboken, died suddenly while sitting in his chair, last evening.

OTTO HERMAN, a conductor on Hoboken horse-car No. 75, was arrested in Jersey City, yesterday, for driving over a little child in Grove-street. HERMAN is held to await the result of the child's injuries, which though serious, are not considered fatal.

NEW-YORK CATTLE MARKET.

NEW-YORK, Monday, Dec. 26, 1870.

Trade in horned Cattle was slow on this forenoon, owing in part to the Christmas holiday and in part to the non-arrival of a large stock train held back by the snow midway between Buffalo and New-York City. The cattle on hand were old stagers and looked the worse for their lengthened exposure to the severe cold in the open pens of our great cattle marts. Prices ranged from 12c.@16½c. ℔ lb.; weights ranged from 6 cwt.@9 cwt., dressed weights; quality ranged from common to good. Milch Cows were slow, but the quality being somewhat in advance of what it has been lately, prices were higher; the extreme range is $50@$100 ℔ head. Veal were just as dull as possible; the rate however was the same as last reported, from 7c.@11c. ℔ lb., at the One Hundredth-street Yards, and from 10c.@12½c. ℔ lb. at CHAMBERLIN'S Yards. Sheep and Lambs slow at fair rates, ranging from 5c.@7½c. ℔ lb. Market closed firm. Hogs not quoted, sales being affected on private terms.

SALES TODAY.

W. FITCH sold for J. T. ALEXANDER 198 Steers, Kentuckys, ordinary cattle, at 13½c. ℔ lb., weight 6½ cwt.; had consigned from some 30 cars of cattle from fair to prime, including 18 cars of cattle from the home farm, held back by snow on the New-York Central Railroad. BEACH & BRAY sold for J. T. ALEXANDER 99 Steers, Kentuckys, ordinary cattle, at 13c. ℔ lb., weight 6½ cwt. Also, for same, 80 steers, Illinois, from common to fair, from 13½c.@15½c. ℔ lb., weight 7 cwt. WILLIAMS & VALENTINE sold for selves 54 Steers, Illinois, from common to fair, from 13½c.@15c. ℔ lb., weight 7¼ cwt. C. TIDD sold for self 72 Steers, Ohios, good Cattle, from 15c.@16½c. ℔ lb., weight 8¼ cwt. G. W. MARTIN sold for self, 18 Steers, State Cattle, from common to fair, a fat lot, from 12c.@15c. ℔ lb., weight from 7 cwt.@8 cwt. S. ROTHENTHAL sold for self, 69 Steers, Illinois ordinary Cattle, from 13c.@14c. ℔ lb., weight all round 7 cwt. R. MURRAY sold 16 Steers, State Cattle, from common to good, from 14½c.@16c. ℔ lb., average weight 8½ cwt. S. SCHUSTER sold for self, 600 Steers, Illinois, Kentuckys, Ohios, mixed, from common to fair, from 13c.@15½c. ℔ lb., weight from 6 cwt.@8½ cwt. BRIGHT & FAGAN sold for selves, 36 Steers, Illinois common Cattle, at 13c. ℔ lb., weight 6¾c.; also, 19 Steers, Canadas, tidy Cattle, at 12¼c. ℔ lb., weight 6¾ cwt.; and again, 15 Oxen, Michigans, fat coarse Cattle, from 13c.@14c. ℔ lb., weight 8 cwt. HUGHES & WESTHEIMER sold for W. SMITH 98 Steers, Illinois, from common to fair, from 14c.@15c. ℔ lb., weight 7¼c.; also, for W. HOSFORD, 51 Steers, Illinois, from common to fair, from 14½c.@16c. ℔ lb., weight 7 cwt. T. C. EASTMAN sold for ALEXANDER MANN, 73 Steers, Illinois, from common to good, from 13½c.@16c. ℔ lb., weight 7 cwt.@9 cwt.

FORTY-EIGHTH-STREET SHEEP MARKET.

J. KIRBY sold 36 Sheep, weight 2,670 lbs., at 5c. ℔ lb.; 25 Lambs, weight 1,670 lbs., at 7½c. ℔ lb.; 185 Sheep, thin Ohios, weight 13,481 lbs., at 4¾c. ℔ lb. Weekly report of Sheep and Lambs sold by above for week ending Dec. 26, 1870: 5,485 Sheep and Lambs, average weight, 67 lbs. ℔ head; average price, $5 ℔ head. HUME & ELLIOTT sold 82 Sheep, weight 6,850 lbs., at 5½c. ℔ lb.; 333 Sheep, weight 32,189 lbs., at 6¾c. ℔ lb.; 132 Sheep, weight 14,550 lbs., at 7c. ℔ lb. Weekly report of Sheep sold by above firm for week ending Dec. 26, 1870, 6,814 Sheep; price received, $35,312 81. Gross arrivals at Communipaw Yards for week ending Dec. 24, 1870, 1,562 head of horned Cattle, 8,782 Hogs, 9,798 Sheep, arrived in 230 cars. There were slaughtered in same yards during same week, 729 head of horned Cattle, 8,174 Hogs, 7280 Sheep. Gross arrivals at One Hundredth-street Yards for week ending Dec. 26, 1870: 2,786 head of horned Cattle, 2 Cows, 6 Veals, all Western stock, and 259 head of horned Cattle, 24 Cows, 488 Veals, 365 Sheep, per Harlem Railroad, local stock. Gross arrivals at Forty-eighth-street Sheep Yards for week ending Dec. 26, 1870: 11,686 Sheep and Lambs, 162 Calves, 20 Cows. Fresh arrivals for this day at same yards: 2,686 Sheep, 101 Calves. Weekly report of sales effected at CHAMBERLIN'S Yards, Nos. 70 and 72 Robinson-street, for week ending Dec. 26, 1870: 11 Beeves from 12c.@14c. ℔ lb.; 24 Cows and Calves sold together from $50@$75@$90 ℔ head; 71 Calves from 10c.@12½c. ℔ lb.; 600 Sheep and Lambs, range of prices for Sheep, 5¼c.@8¾c. ℔ lb.; range of prices for Lambs, 5½c.@7¼c.@8¾c. ℔ lb.

FOREIGN MARKETS.

FRANKFORT, Dec. 25.—United States Five-twenty Bonds closed Saturday at 94⅛ for the issue of 1862.

DOMESTIC MARKETS.

NEW-ORLEANS, Dec. 26.—FLOUR Dull; Superfine, $5 75; Double Extra, $5 90; Treble Extra, $6 50. OATS, 53c.@55c. CORN—White and Yellow, 87c.@88c. BRAN, $1 25@$1 30. HAY firmer; Prime, $27 50. PORK, $22@$22 50. BACON—No shoulders in market; Clear Rib, 13c.; Clear Sides, 13¾c. LARD—Tierce, 12¼c.; Keg, 12¾c.@14c. SUGAR dull; Prime, 9¾c.@10c. MOLASSES active and firmer; Common, 40c.@50c.; Prime, 56c.@57c.; Choice, 61c. WHISKY, $1@$1 05. COFFEE, firmer; Prime, 17¼c.@17¾c. EXCHANGE—Sterling, 120; New-York sight, ⅛ discount. GOLD, 110¾.

ALBANY, Dec. 26.—The Board of Trade held no meeting today, but some attention was paid to business. WHEAT was quiet, but firmly held. CORN dull and in large supply. BARLEY without movement. OATS quiet.

[Advertisement.]

It is said by some that "trade is moving uptown." While this may be justly remarked concerning some classes of business, it cannot be in regard to others. For instance, the Hatting and Fur Business. To prove the correctness of this assertion, we simply refer you to the crowds of customers who daily throng the portals of KNOX's Emporium, corner of Broadway and Fulton-street. One thing is certain, KNOX knows not only how to make new patrons, but how to keep his old ones also. Hence his great success.

Movements of Ocean Steamers.

FOR EUROPE.

Steamer	Date	From	To
City of Cork	Dec. 27	New-York	Liverpool
Thuringia	Dec. 27	New-York	Hamburg
Tyrian	Dec. 28	New-York	Glasgow
Russia	Dec. 28	New-York	Liverpool
Nevada	Dec. 28	New-York	Liverpool
Palmyra	Dec. 29	New-York	Liverpool
Hansa	Dec. 31	New-York	Bremen
Lafayette	Dec. 31	New-York	Havre
City of B'nos Ayres	Dec. 31	New-York	Southampt'n
City of Brooklyn	Dec. 31	New-York	Liverpool
Pennsylvania	Dec. 31	New-York	Liverpool
Caledonia	Dec. 31	New-York	Glasgow

FOR HAVANA, &C.

Steamer	Date	From	To
Augusta	Dec. 29	New-York	Havana
Morro Castle	Dec. 29	New-York	Havana
Tybee	Dec. 31	New-York	San Domingo

Closing of Foreign Mails at Post-Office.

TUESDAY.

For Halifax, N. S., and Bermuda by the *City of Cork*, at 7 A. M. For Germany, via Hamburg, by the *Thuringia*, at 12 M.

WEDNESDAY.

For Europe, via Queenstown and Liverpool, by the *Nevada*, at 8 A. M. A supplementary mail, for paid letters only, on Pier No. 46 North River, until 10 A. M.

Closing of Domestic Mails.

North, Poughkeepsie Way	5 A. M.; 2 P. M.
North, through *via* H. R. R. R. and New-York Central	5 A. M.; 4:00, 9 P. M.
North Way, *via* Harlem R. R., Chatham Four Corners	7 A. M.
East, *via* New-Haven	5 A. M.; 1:30, 6 P. M.
East, *via* Newport	3 P. M.
East, New-Haven Way	5 A. M.; 2:30 P. M.
East, Fall River, rail	6 P. M.
South, Through	7 A. M.; 7:00 P. M.
Philadelphia Way	5 A. M.; 4:30 P. M.
West Mail, through to Harrisburg, Pittsburg, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Louisville, Indianapolis, Columbus, Chicago, St. Paul, St. Joseph, Salt Lake and Denver	7 A. M., 3:00 P. M.
West Mail, through to Cleveland, Toledo, and by A. & G. Western R. R. to Franklin and Meadville, Penn., &c	5 A. M.; 4:30 P. M.

Passengers Arrived.

In steam-ship Gen. Barnes from Savannah.—Mme. Teller, J. F. Diffenderffer, C. W. Washburn, W. Munro, J. G. Brand, M. H. Murray, C. S. Levi, B. H. Morse, C. J. Cobern, B. Cobern, wife and infant, Lottie Roberts, O. P. Reid, S. B. Turner, J. French, M. Montal, Mr. Roach.

NEWS PACKAGES FOR THE PRESS.

Captains and pursers of vessels arriving at this port are requested to deliver packages addressed to the New-York Associated Press, only to parties exhibiting the written authority of J. W. SIMONTON, General Agent.

News packages for the *Journal of Commerce, Times, Tribune, World, Sun, Express, Evening Post, Commercial Advertiser, Staats Zeitung* and *New-Yorker Demokrat*, should also be delivered only to the same parties.

MINIATURE ALMANAC—THIS DAY.

Sun rises.....7:23 | Sun sets.......4:39 | Moon sets..10:53

HIGH WATER—THIS DAY.

Sandy Hook.11:11 | Gov. Island..12:00 | Hell Gate...1:22

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

NEW-YORK....MONDAY, Dec. 26.

Arrived.

Steam-ship Victor, Gates, New-Orleans Dec. 17, and Bar 18th, with mdse. to C. H. Mallory & Co. Had heavy N. W. gales on the passage.

Steam-ship Panther, (of Philadelphia,) Mills, Portland, with heading to master. Is bound to Philadelphia, and put into this port for a harbor. Had heavy N. N. W. winds and snow squalls until off Absecom, from thence strong head winds, it blowing a gale S. S. W.; off Absecom saw a small schr. with fore and maintopmast, main and part of foresail gone; could not ascertain her name or render any assistance, as it was too close in shore to be safe for the steamer; she looked as if she had charcoal on deck.

Steam-ship Albemarle, Blackwood, Norfolk, with mdse. and passengers to Old Dominion Steamship Co.

Steam-ship Mercedita, Leonard, Charleston, Dec. 21, with mdse. and passengers to Henry R. Morgan & Co. Had heavy N. W. winds from Cape Lookout.

Steam-ship Caledonia, (Br.,) Glasgow, Dec. 10, and Moville, Dec. 11, with mdse. and 148 passengers to Henderson Bros. Had moderate easterly winds up till the afternoon of the 15th of December, after which we had a succession of heavy gales from westward, with constant bad weather, and occasional showers of sleet and snow.

Steam-ship General Barnes, Mallory, Savannah, Dec. 23, with mdse. and passengers to Livingston, Fox & Co.

Ship Yosemite, (of Portmouth, N. H.,) Mack, Liverpool 57 ds., with mdse. to Samuel Thompson's Nephew & Co. Made the southern passage, and had a succession of westerly and N. W. gales from lon. 34.

Bark Carmel, (of St. John, N B.,) Patten, Arrosan 57 ds., with pig-iron to order; vessel to James W. Elwell & Co. Had light easterly winds up to lon. 64, from thence a succession of westerly gales; has been 34 ds. W. of the Banks, and had a pilot on board 12 ds.

Brig Oliver, (of Bermuda,) Bernholm, Cape Haytien 18 ds., with logwood and coffee to R. Murray, Jr. Has been 12 ds. N. of Hatteras with N. W. gales. Left in port schr. Carrie E. Clarke, for Boston, in 4 ds.

Brig Hattie S. Bishop, Webber, Baltimore, for Portsmouth.

Schr. Chas. Dennis, Hodgdon, St. Martha Oct. 27, Savanilla Nov. 25 and Key West Dec. 10, with coffee and logwood to De Castro & Co.—vessel to Jonas Smith & Co. Has had N. W. gales the entire passage; lost and split sails. Put into Key West to repair sails. Dec. 19, off Cape Hatteras, passed schr. Matilda, from Savanilla, for New-York.

Schr. Roque Alayo, (Sp.,) Vallhourat, Baracoa 20 ds., with fruit to J. & T. Pearsall. Had heavy N. W. gales the entire passage; broke main boom; Dec. 23, lat. 29, lon. 74, Salvador Paltrat, seaman, 25 years of age, native of Barcelona, was washed overboard and drowned.

Schr. Mary Crowell, Crowell, Norfolk, with ties to Jersey Central Railroad. Had heavy N. W. gales; lost jib stay and part of head gear.

Schr. Rebecca M. Atwood, (of Harwich,) Doane, Mayagues, P. R., 16 ds., with fruit to Dollner, Potter & Co.—vessel to B. J. Wenberg. Has been 9 ds. N. of Hatteras, with N. W. gales. Left in port, schrs. Molly Potter, for New-York Dec. 15; Britannia, (Br.,) for do., 12th; Willie, for Baltimore, ldg. to sail in 4 ds.

Schr. S. W. Bunnell, Bunnell, Baltimore, for Bridgeport.

Schr. Mary E. Staples, Godfrey, Philadelphia, for Boston.

Schr. J. S. Watson, Houck, Philadelphia, for Boston.

Schr. A. H. Cain, Simpson, Philadelphia, for Gloucester.

Schr. Maxson Rogers, Jackson, Norfolk, for Providence.

Schr. D. W. Saunders, Murray, Newbern, N. C., for Providence.

Schr. L. C. Knight, Griffiths, Elizabethport, for Boston.

Schr. Francis Coffin, Bailey, Elizabethport, for Salem.

Schr. Artic, Woodman, Rockland, with lime to J. R. Brown.

Schr. Francis Coffin, French, Bangor, with lumber to Watrous, Walker & Co.

Schr. M. S. Lewis, Lewis, Philadelphia, for Boston.

Schr. J. Paine, Stephen, Philadelphia, for Boston.

Schr. M. D. Cranmer, Cranmer, Providence.

Schr. E. D. Smith, Baker, Providence.

Schr. John Lancaster, Williams, Providence.

Schr. Connecticut, Staples, Providence.

Schr. Edward Lindsley, Hodgeton, New-Haven.

Schr. Spray, Martin, New-Haven.

Schr. Breeze, Bartlett, New-Haven.

Schr. Mail, Meade, Greenwich.

WIND—Sunset, light, S. W., cloudy.

EUROPEAN MARINE NEWS.

Arrival Out.

QUEENSTOWN, Dec. 26.—The Inman steamer City of Paris, New-York, for Liverpool, arrived at 1½ P. M. today.

Miscellaneous.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 25.—Bark Magallenes, hence for Havana, has returned to repair damages, received in collision with an unknown vessel.

GLASGOW, Dec. 25.—The sunken wreck of the Antilles, which lies in the channel of the Clyde, causes much mischief.

BALL, BLACK & CO.,

BROADWAY AND PRINCE-ST.,

HAVE OPENED THEIR ENTIRE COLLECTION OF NEW GOODS FOR THE HOLIDAYS, COMPRISING THE BEST SELECTED STOCK OF

JEWELRY, SILVER-WARE

AND

FANCY GOODS

TO BE FOUND IN THE CITY. THOSE PURCHASING FOR THE HOLIDAYS WILL FIND IT TO THEIR ADVANTAGE TO EXAMINE THIS STOCK.

GREATER REDUCTION

IN FINE READY-MADE CLOTHING FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

We have reduced our prices twenty-five per cent. below cost, and will sell at this reduction for the next thirty days. Owing to the lateness of the season and the great accumulation of stock, we have determined to sacrifice more than ever before. Please observe a few of our prices:

Business Suits	$15
Overcoats	$10@$12
Pea Jackets	10
English Walking Coats	10
Derby Sack Coats	8
Cassimere Pants	5@ 7
Cassimere Vests	2@ 4

A reasonable offer will not be refused. Our goods are all new and stylish, and, above all, well made.

COLFAX & OVERTON,

Successors to

WHITE, WHITMAN & CO.,

Nos. 234 and 235 Broadway.

HARD-WOOD BOARDS

And Spanish Cedar

FOR CIGAR-BOXES,

and a large and magnificent assortment of

VENEERS,

comprising everything in their line, both Foreign and Domestic, to which they invite the special attention of all dealers. Send for Catalogue and Price List.

GEO. W. READ & CO.,

Factory, No. 291 Monroe-st., No. 338 Madison-st. Nos. 168, 170 & 172 Centre-st.

BEEBE'S RANGES

NO. 1, LARGE SIZE, $55. NO. 0, SECOND SIZE, $50.

including Water-Back and Setting. At these prices it will pay landlord or tenant to throw away any other partly wornout Range, as the cost of the exchange can be saved in fuel, repairs and vexation, in a single year. Ask your cook which is the best Range, and the answer is invariably

BEEBE'S.

Made and put up by JANES & KIRTLAND, (Formerly Janes, Beebe & Co.,) Nos. 8, 10 and 12 Reade-st.

BRAUNSDORF & METZ,

CABINET FURNITURE

MANUFACTURERS.

Ware-house Nos. 125 and 127 Rivingston-st.,

NEW-YORK.

BALL, BLACK & CO.,

Broadway and Prince-st., Will Keep Their Store Open Evenings During the Holidays.

MOST USEFUL HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

First-class Sewing-machines on very accommodating terms, at No. 294 Bowery, New-York.

EMPIRE S. M. CO.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

Reasonable, Elegant and Useful.

PIANO COVERS,

BEAUTIFULLY EMBROIDERED.

From $8 to $15. Extra, $15 to $25.

LACE CURTAINS,

REAL SWISS, $10 to $75 a Window.

Nottingham, $1 50 to $15 a Window.

Clocks and Bronzes,

AT CLOSING-OUT PRICES.

Jardinieres, Card Receivers, Aquariums, Pedestals,

AND A VARIETY OF

Beautiful Goods,

VERY CHEAP.

B. L. SOLOMON & SONS,

NOS. 657 AND 659 BROADWAY.

FIRST MORTGAGE CONVERTIBLE BONDS

OF THE

ST. LOUIS AND SOUTH-EASTERN

Railway Company

OF ILLINOIS AND INDIANA,

(ON ROAD COMPLETED AND IN OPERATION.)

PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST PAYABLE IN GOLD. Interest at SEVEN PER CENT., payable in New-York May and November, FREE OF GOVERNMENT TAX.

Price 92 1-2 and ACCRUED INTEREST in Currency. Subscription, $1,800,000. Issue of bonds limited to $16,000 per mile. Total length of line, 200 miles—90 COMPLETED AND IN OPERATION, rest under construction.

The road runs through one of the most populous and fertile regions in the West, connecting at St. Louis, the largest city in the West, with Nashville, the largest one in Tennessee; Louisville, the largest in Kentucky, and Evansville, the second in size in Indiana, by the shortest and best possible lines. Every mile of it is underlaid by the *great coal-field of Illinois*, now mined at various points on the road, and yielding from 9,000,000 to 30,000,000 of tons per square mile.

The Salt Works of Gallatin County on this line, now in operation, are of unlimited capacity, and the only ones within 450 miles of St. Louis.

The only Iron and Lead Mines in Illinois are found within ten miles of the track.

16,000,000 bushels of Corn, 4,500,000 bushels of Wheat, 100,000 acres of other field crops, and 165,000 head of Hogs, were grown in the counties traversed by the road, during the year 1870, by a population of 230,000.

The earnings during the first 14 days of November after the opening of St. Louis division (76 miles) were at a rate varying from $500 to $800 per day—a sum amply sufficient to pay all expenses, including interest on bonds and operation, and leave a surplus for extensions.

This is the largest amount ever earned at first by any new road of equal length leading into St. Louis.

After a thorough investigation, we are convinced that these bonds are among the best and safest ever offered in our market.

Further particulars furnished upon application.

GEORGE OPDYKE & CO.,

NO. 25 Nassau-st.

AMERICAN PIANOS

AT THE

PARIS EXPOSITION!

CHICKERING & SONS

TRIUMPHANT AT THE

UNIVERSAL EXPOSITION,

PARIS, 1867.

Chickering & Sons

WERE AWARDED THE

Highest Recompense over all Competition, the Cross of the Legion of Honor and

FIRST GOLD MEDAL

for the American Pianos, in all three styles exhibited, viz.: Grand, Square and Upright. This award being distinctly classified by the Imperial Commission as FIRST IN THE ORDER OF MERIT, places the Pianos of Chickering & Sons at the head of the list, and above all other Pianos exhibited.

A general reduction in prices, and a strict adhesion to the

ONE PRICE SYSTEM,

adopted by them April, 1869. Uniform and fair prices to all purchasers.

In addition to their established styles of Pianos, Chickering & Sons offer for the use of schools, teachers and others wishing a good, reliable Piano, at an exceedingly moderate price,

The SCHOOL PIANO, a thoroughly complete instrument of seven octaves, precisely the same in size, scale, interior mechanism and workmanship as their highest-priced 7-octave Pianos, the only difference being that the School Piano is made in a perfectly plain case. It is in every respect a thoroughly first-class Chickering Piano, and is offered at a price which cannot fail to give satisfaction.

Chickering & Sons also desire to call special attention to their new

Patent Upright Pianos,

which, for power and quality of tone, delicacy of touch, perfection of mechanism, durability and general excellence of workmanship, with beauty of design and finish, cannot be excelled by any other pianos of this style now offered.

Every Piano is Fully Warranted.

WAREROOMS,

No. 11 East 14th-st., between Union-square and 5th av.

CALENBERG & VAUPEL,

MANUFACTURERS OF GRAND AND SQUARE

PIANO-FORTES,

NOS. 333 AND 335 WEST 36TH-ST., NEW-YORK.

A selection of second-hand PIANOS of various manufacturers, for SALE and TO LET.

TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION.

HOLIDAY WEEK.

SOLDIERS' ORPHANS' FAIR.

The most novel and beautiful ATTRACTION IN NEW-YORK.

SIG. LUBIN'S FAMOUS FANTOCCINI FROM PARIS

EVERY EVENING AT OUR FAIR.

Broadway, 35th-st. and 6th-av.

Come and bring the children. Admission only 25c.

SOLDIERS' ORPHANS' FAIR.

Broadway, 6th-av. and 35th-st.

LAST WEEK OF THE FAIR.

VARIED AND INCREASED ATTRACTIONS.

Performing Dogs, Living Art Gallery, Panoramas, Picture Gallery, Italian Fantoccini, Signor Bentonio's Magical Feats, &c., &c., &c.

Admittance, 25 cents.

SOLDIERS' ORPHANS' FAIR.

SEVENTY-FIRST REGIMENT ARMORY,

Junction of Broadway, 35th-st. and 6th-av.

THIS TUESDAY, DEC. 27,

AFTERNOON AND EVENING.

THIS AFTERNOON—PERFORMING DOGS! and other attractions for the children.

THIS EVENING—GRAND CONCERT.

NO EXTRA CHARGE!

ADMISSION ONLY 25 CENTS.

OPEN FROM NOON TO MIDNIGHT!

AUCTION OF HOLIDAY GOODS EVERY EVENING.

SEE THE LIVING ART GALLERY!

THE FAMOUS FANTOCCINI!

THE MAGICAL PERFORMANCE!

THE BALL PANORAMA!

LAST WEEK OF THE FAIR!

COME AND HELP THE POOR ORPHANS!